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## BREAKERS AHEAD.

NON-INTERVENTION, strict neutrality, is an admirable new doctrine for the government of States. Our own brief experience of it goes to show, too, that it is capable of being made to work well in practice; but also we have learned that if we are to guard ourselves absolutely from all danger of implication in foreign broils we must go yet further—imitate the wisdom of the Japanese (and it *was* wisdom for them, it seems), and proclaim a policy of isolation.

Behold now what danger we are in, for all our "best intentions!" What difficult navigation the seas have brought to the vessel of the State, since that ship will no longer go abroad in search of it! At every Cabinet Council our statesmen sing:—

Let us swear an oath, and keep it with an equal mind,  
In the hollow Lotos-land to live, and lie reclined  
On the hills like gods together, careless of mankind

And we all, idlers and men of business, applaud the song; but

the Lotos-land we seek is hollow in another sense than Mr. Tennyson put into his wonderful verses. It is an unknown country; and we in England are not likely to be permitted long to look indifferently on "changing fights, and flaming towns, and sinking ships, and praying hands." Whatever our desire for peace, and our striving for it, we shall not improbably *ourselves* set towns aflame, and sink ships, and cause many hands of orphans to be lifted, before the expiration of this year of grace, 1864.

The decision of the Exchequer Court, in the case of the *Alexandra*, will bring us *threats* enough from America. No matter that officers of the Federal navy have been convicted of enlisting men in England contrary to law, our Judges have decided that it is *not* unlawful for English shipbuilders to build warlike ships and sell them even to Confederates; and if we may judge not merely from the speeches of bunkum politicians or the diatribes of popular journals, but from the expressed sentiments of Mr. Lincoln's Ministers, this decision

will be regarded as a deep offence by the Federal Government. True, it was not a unanimous decision, and appeal is to be made; but the course of the argument goes to indicate pretty clearly that an appeal will fail on the very merits of the Act under which appeal is made. The *intention* of the Foreign Enlistment Act may be disputed for ever; but, according to the Court of Exchequer, that Act leaves Mr. Laird at liberty to build ships of war, and hand them over to the agents of a belligerent in English waters, always provided that such ships are not "equipped for war;" that is to say, the hull of a ship obviously built for war and nothing else, is at all times and to all parties fair barter in English waters; but it may not be armed, or manned, or in any way equipped for the purpose of its existence.

It is needless to review the objection made by Baron Channell and Baron Pigott to the decision of the Court. It may be that the force of the Act lies against the *"intention"* that such ship or vessel shall be employed in the service of a



THE ROUND FOND, KENSINGTON GARDENS, DURING THE LATE FROST.—SEE PAGE 42.



foreign Prince," &c.; it may be that this intent imparts a warlike quality to an equipment in itself pacific. These are the questions which remain for appeal, but which will probably be decided beforehand by a new and more explicit Act of Parliament. Certainly such an Act is needed. A law which permits the arrest of Mersey steam-rans, built by contract, while it leaves their builder at liberty to sell a fully-armed ship to a belligerent if "he has it ready" at the moment it is asked for, wants revision. But, meanwhile, the "Alexandra case" has been decided, the Court of Exchequer has affirmed (virtually) that, though an Alabama left our ports every day, and these ships all got into the service of the Confederates, the Federals have nothing to complain of.

We may expect a hurricane across the Atlantic, then. This news will revive all the fury against England which has been so popular in the Northern federation of America lately; and we can only hope that the Government will prove wise enough and strong enough to control the favourite rage of the people. Sometimes it happens, indeed, that a Government is glad of a means to get out of one difficulty, if it only leads into another; but there is nothing in the present aspect of the American quarrel to give ground for hope that a war with England would heal the rupture of the Union; and were it not for Mr. Seward's minatory manners—for his habits of threatening, and for his obvious idea that a war with England is a matter of no great consequence, we should have no apprehension of harm. But we see, by example, at this moment how difficult a task it is to control the anger of a people when it is once roused for war—even when it is a German people—a people accustomed to be governed. In America the case is different. There we see an impatient, excitable nation, and leaders who see not an inch above the mob. However, New York and Pennsylvania must remember that the Alexandra case is not finally settled yet; the ship is not actually released; and it is highly probable that before the next Session of Parliament is over the Foreign Enlistment Act will be something more definite and complete than it is now.

We need not be much alarmed, then, at the sound and fury which the report of the Alexandra decision will arouse in America. But we confess to some surprise that our difficulties in another quarter are being taken so quietly. The fact is, that Denmark is now not more in danger of war with Germany than England is. Whatever is now done by the German Diet to coerce the Danes in Schleswig will be tantamount to a declaration of war against this country. That is the position we are placed in by the mission of Lord Wodehouse and its result. He was instructed by our Government to advise the Danes to retire from Holstein. They did so. The Germans come in, and revolution as well as occupation takes place at once. That remarkable Prince with the "rich German head of dark hazel hair, slightly pencilled eyebrows, and light, transparent, sky-blue, serene eyes"—Duke Frederick, the strikingly solemn but somewhat heavy and stuttering personage so graphically described by an admiring special correspondent of the *Times* lately—was proclaimed at once; and next we hear of propositions to occupy Schleswig in the same way. The condition of the ice on the Eider, and whether or when it will bear the transport of German troops, is reported just as we talked of the heats of India when the mutiny broke out; but this much is clear, meanwhile, that if those German troops do cross the Eider our Government must send the Channel Fleet to the assistance of the Danes. That is what is meant by its being ordered home to port. The troops of the German federation can only enter Schleswig as invaders; we are bound by the Treaty of 1852 not to permit such an invasion; and there can be very little doubt that when Lord Wodehouse advised the Danes to evacuate Holstein, and the Danes consented, it was well understood that England would stand by Denmark if any attempt were made to force new concessions.

And thus it comes to pass that we are in as much danger of war as the Danes themselves, who have made up their minds for it. All depends upon Germany, and it is very unfortunate, therefore, that the Diet is so far pledged to the position that Schleswig is inseparably connected with Holstein that retreat is difficult. There is only one hope—that the proposition for a conference will be carried out. At present that hope is more lively than when we wrote last, though the "adhesion" of France is not made in a very encouraging manner.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS have been commenced against several persons in Liverpool for procuring seamen for the service of the Confederate States in violation of the Foreign Enlistment Act.

Mr. GRANT DUFF, M.P., has published an account of a visit he lately paid to the prisons at Wilna and Warsaw, in which he describes the state of things as much better than we have been led to believe, though he found some things which would admit of improvement.

THE DANISH MILITARY AND NAVAL FORCES.—The Copenhagen paper in Schleswig gives the following information:—The Danish army now in and about the Dannevirke position is under the command of Lieut.-General de Meza as commander-in-chief, and consists of three divisions of infantry under Generals Gerlach, Du Plat, and Steinmann, each consisting of six regiments of infantry, two field batteries, and three squadrons of light cavalry. The fourth, or cavalry division, is commanded by Lieut.-General Hegerman-Lindencrone, and consists of four regiments of dragoons and three squadrons of hussars, with a field battery. The infantry reserve is commanded by General Caroe, and is composed of the remaining four regiments (Holsteiner). Each regiment of infantry forms two battalions of four companies each, and the companies are, or will be, brought up to 250 men each. The cavalry regiments are each six squadrons, each of 100 men. The active army in the field would thus number—Infantry 18 regiments of 2000 each, 36,000; Cavalry, 6 regiments of 600 each, 3600; Artillery, 7 field batteries of 130 each, 910—total, 40,510. The naval squadron in commission consists of the Sjælland, 44, 300-horse power, screw frigate, Captain Paludan; Niels Juel, 44, 300-horse power, screw frigate, Captain Lutken; Heimdal, 16, 260-horse power, screw corvette, Commander S. Lund; Thor, 12, 260-horse power, screw corvette, Commander Hedemann; Hecla, 5, 200-horse power, paddle steamer, Commander Obelitz; Geiser, 8, 160-horse power, paddle steamer, Commander Jacobsen; Herthor, 2, 90-horse power, paddle steamer, Commander Christiansen; Absalon, 3, 100-horse power, iron-clad screw schooner, Commander Schönhedder; Esbern Snare, 3, 100-horse power, iron-clad screw schooner, Commander Kraft; Krieger, 2, 70-horse power, Marstrand, 2, 70-horse power, and Wille, 2, 70-horse power, screw gun-boats.

## Foreign Intelligence.

### FRANCE.

The debate on the address, and especially the speech of M. Thiers, engrosses for the present the public attention in Paris, to the exclusion of every other question, foreign or domestic. The speech of M. Thiers has caused an immense excitement, and, except in the ultra-official circles, is praised on all sides. The speech of M. Rouher, in reply, was weak in the extreme; and, in his observations on the liberty of the press, he flatly contradicted himself, a circumstance which was used against him with great effect by M. Jules Favre, who completely demolished the Ministerial advocate in a most bitter and effective speech.

Marshal Forey has been appointed Commander of the 2nd Army Corps.

### BELGIUM.

A Ministerial resignation in Belgium is believed to be imminent. At the election of deputies for the city of Bruges the candidates of the clerical party were successful, and the result is, of course, a still further diminution of the Liberal majority, which the recent elections had left weak enough already.

### SPAIN.

The Budget for 1864 has been published. The increase of receipts is stated at 167,000,000 reals. The Finance Minister proposed to realise the bonds of the purchasers of national property, to impose a new tax upon travellers by railway, and to levy some further imposts.

### ITALY.

In the Italian Senate the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation with France has been under discussion. Signor Minghetti, the President of the Council, spoke strongly in favour of the treaty as a measure destined to draw closer the bonds of friendship between France and Italy. The Minister took the opportunity to express the sentiment of indignation felt by the country at the conspiracy organised against the Emperor. This allusion was received with loud applause. The Chamber of Deputies, after a debate of several days, have passed the bill for the suppression of brigandage by 150 to 46 votes.

It is believed that Garibaldi will be again brought forward as representative for the city of Naples, and elected with or without his own consent.

The brigands taken from the Aunis have been sent to Naples, to be tried at the Court of Assizes in the Terra di Lavoro.

### AUSTRIA.

It is expected that the Austrian press law will very shortly be introduced in Hungary, and that the military tribunals will be abolished in that country. Even more important changes in Hungary than these are spoken of. Preparations are being made for the convocation of the Diet in Croatia.

The following series of questions, signed by numerous members of the Right and Left of the Lower House of the Reichsrath, has been addressed to Count Rechberg:—

1. Is the policy pursued by Austria, in conjunction with the Prussian Government, only the result of Count Rechberg's advice, or does the entire Cabinet share this policy?
2. Does Austria intend to comply with the resolutions of the minor States even if Prussia should refuse?
3. Or will the Government refuse execution of the resolutions at the peril of dissolution of the German Confederation, or even of civil war?
4. How far, finally, does the understanding between Prussia and Austria extend?

### PRUSSIA.

The Prussian Chamber of Deputies has rejected by a large majority the vote for the expenses of the reorganisation of the army.

### MEXICO.

Advices from the city of Mexico to the 7th, via San Francisco, report that the French occupied Morelia on the 30th ult., and had also possessed themselves of Acamboro, Cahija, San Miguel, and Salamanca. President Juarez and his Ministers are stated to have abandoned San Luis de Potosi, and gone to Durango. The Mexican General Negrete had succeeded Comonfort as Minister of War.

### SOUTH AMERICA.

A great battle has been fought between the Ecuadorians, under General Flores, and the Columbians, led by General Mosquera. The army of Flores was defeated with great loss, and Mosquera followed up his victory by crossing the Ohota and defeating an Ecuadorian force which was stationed there.

### JAPAN.

The news from Japan is of a very favourable character. The difficulty with Prince Satsuma has been arranged, the Government of Jeddo have withdrawn the decrees for the expulsion of foreigners from Japan, and the building of forts round Yokohama is discontinued. Commercial transactions had consequently resumed their usual activity, and peace was considered as assured for the present.

### INDIA.

By a telegram received from Bombay it appears that the war on the Panjab frontier is over. The telegram states that the Guide Corps and a contingent of the Bonair tribe, which were detached for the purpose of destroying Mulka, have returned to Umbeylah. The original object of the expedition has thus been accomplished in the destruction of the seat of the Hindostanee fanatics. The force, therefore, will return to the plains; and, after the exaction of hostages from the Judoon and Othmanzye tribes, will go into quarters. The Peshawar border and district were quiet; and the Panjab was perfectly tranquil.

### THE POLISH INSURRECTION.

OPERATIONS in the field seem to be generally suspended in Poland, though we have reports of occasional skirmishes of no very great importance. The measures of the Russian Government, however, continue unabated in severity.

A Government ordinance was issued on the 10th inst. imposing upon all the towns an extraordinary contribution of 3 per cent upon the rent of the houses. Warsaw, Praga, and other towns of Poland are to pay double the amount of the chimney tax. The time on or before which payment of this contribution must be made is fixed in Warsaw for the 31st of January, and for the other towns the 25th of February, under a fine of from 25 to 50 per cent.

Private letters from Lithuania to the 25th ult. contain accounts of the cruelties inflicted by Mouravieff and his subordinates. One of his latest acts was to order the General commanding the district of Jezorosz not to appear before him until he had completely suppressed the insurrection in that quarter. The General came to the conclusion that it was useless to make any distinction in a country where the entire population is favourable to the insurrection, and he determined to strike a great blow. Having selected a Colonel and two other superior officers notorious for their cruelty as his assistants, he arrived at Dusiaty, a château belonging to the Counts Ladislas and Caesar Plater, which had been confiscated by Mouravieff, and there established his headquarters. He commenced by transporting all the farmers on the estate *en masse*, without any trial, and with them the Abbé Viotvaricz, the parish priest of Dusiaty—a man beloved by his parishioners. The Canon Maciewicz was the next victim. Having got rid of all the clergy, the General proceeded to the village of Aulceza, consisting of ten farmhouses. Determined, if possible, to discover the chiefs of the national organisation, he ordered ten peasants to be brought before him, the greater number of them being fathers of families, and, having selected two, the bastinado was applied to them during the night. The following day he ordered ten victims to be led to the market-place of Dusiaty, and in the presence of the peasants of the neighbouring communes the General ordered that from 200 to 500 blows with a stick should be inflicted on each. He nevertheless failed to extort any confession from them. Their mutilated bodies were then removed, and

the General ordered Norbert Urbanus, fifty years of age, and possessing great influence in the country, to be brought forward. He first spoke to the prisoner with great mildness, in order to induce him to give information, but he could obtain nothing from him. He then ordered that he should be beaten without mercy, and that his wife and two children should be committed to prison. Finding that all was in vain, the General endeavoured to terrify Urbanus by commanding that he should be shot. All the preparations were made, and he was led to the place of execution. He there exclaimed, with a firm voice, "You have commanded that I shall be shot, but that is nothing new here. It is not two months since we witnessed in this little town the death of one of our brothers. If it be necessary that I should die for the advantage of my country and of my religion, I do not fear death." He was then released. The General next commanded that other villages, containing in all 117 houses and 500 inhabitants, should be plundered, and the inmates, men, women, and children, brought to Dusiaty, where they were exposed to cold and hunger in order to force them to give information. The pillage continued from the 7th to the 23rd of December, and all the property of the villagers was sold for anything offered by the Burlaki, or "old believers." All the agricultural implements were given for nothing to the Burlaki, who rushed on the houses of the Polish peasants. The entire population of Dusiaty and of Skopastik were transported to Siberia. Of all these unfortunate people not one offered to give information to the Russian General. All bore their fate with fortitude, and in full confidence of the resurrection of their beloved country.

### THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

THE news from America is not of particular interest. Several raids on both sides are reported, but no operations of importance had taken place.

In East Tennessee General Longstreet is reported to have gained a position capable of being strongly fortified and having open communications with North Carolina and Virginia, and thus necessitating the maintenance of a large Federal force to watch his movements. The General, it seems, was prevented from following up the advantage he gained over the Federals at Bean's Station and Blair's Cross-roads in consequence of many of his soldiers being shoeless, the weather very cold, and the ground covered with snow.

All was quiet in Georgia and Virginia; but it is said the Confederate General Rosse had accomplished the feat of making a complete circuit of General Meade's army. The Federals had sent three gun-boats to Fort Jackson to suppress the mutiny of the black regiments, which had been more serious than was at first supposed.

General Thomas had telegraphed to General Halleck that Confederate General Wheeler captured a Federal supply-train at Charleston, in Tennessee, on the 29th. General Wheeler attempted to capture the escort also, but, reinforcements from Calhoun arriving for the Federals, he was obliged to retire. The Federals claim to have killed and wounded several of the Confederates, and captured 125 prisoners. They state their own loss at one man wounded.

The Confederate General Forrest destroyed a portion of the Memphis and Charleston Railway between Collinsville and Moscow, in West Tennessee, on the 29th, but is said to have been worsted in engagements with the Federals at Summerville and Middleburg.

The Confederate Government had refused to negotiate with General Butler, on the ground that he is an outlaw. They also demand that in the exchange of prisoners their laws in regard to coloured soldiers should be acknowledged.

The Confederate Congress had passed a bill that no persons were exempt from military duty because they furnished substitutes, and forbidding people to deal in Federal currency.

The Richmond papers announce from Charleston that at twelve o'clock on the night of the 24th the Federals recommenced shelling the city, and continued the bombardment until four p.m. of the 25th, during which interval 130 shots were discharged. A fire broke out in the city on the morning of the 25th, which destroyed ten or twelve buildings and injured several persons, but it is not stated that it originated through the exploding of the shells. Late in the day one man and six women were wounded. An engagement between the Federal gun-boats and the batteries on James Island took place also on the 25th, resulting in no material advantage to either side. The Confederates continue to shell the Federal working parties on Morris Island, who are endeavouring to erect a new battery on Cumming's Point.

Letters from New Orleans of the 18th contain a report that 7000 Confederates, under Generals Walker and Polignac, were descending the Bayou la Fourche, in Louisiana, and had burnt two Federal steam-boats in the neighbourhood of Labadurville and Thibodeaux. Reinforcements from New Orleans were to be immediately sent to the support of the Federal station near Thibodeaux, who had fortified themselves at the railway-crossing of the bayou. Several negroes had been arrested in New Orleans for expressing secession sentiments and a desire for the return of their old masters.

The Federal Government has officially denied that they had stated they would never tolerate or recognise the Mexican monarchy.

The iron-clad Dictator had at last been launched. She is 314 ft. long, 50 ft. broad, and 22½ ft. deep. Her armour consists of iron 1½ in. in thickness, which is fastened to a backing of 3 ft. of oak, and is continued beyond the bows into a projection of 22 ft., forming a ram. She will have one revolving turret, 27 ft. in diameter, composed of iron 18 in. thick, in which will be placed two of Ericsson's 13-inch guns, carrying projectiles weighing 304 lb.

### PLOT TO ASSASSINATE THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON.

FOUR men—Italians—have been arrested in Paris charged with being concerned in a plot against the life of the Emperor of the French. The names of the men are Greco, Imperatori, Trabucco, and Saglio, otherwise called Marpholi. They were arrested in the afternoon of Sunday last. When they were examined before the Juge d'Instruction, Greco, who, it seems, was at the head of the band, unhesitatingly and with audacious frankness avowed his crime, affected to glory in having been employed to execute it, and regretted that he had not succeeded. If the disclosures made by this man are to be trusted, it would appear that towards the end of September, or beginning of October last, he and his three accomplices were summoned to Lugano by Mazzini, with whom they had been for some time in correspondence. It was then and there arranged that they should proceed to Paris to assassinate the Emperor. Mazzini gave them four shells which he had received or brought from England; four shells of a similar description which he had caused to be made at Genoa; four revolvers and four poniards. On leaving Lugano Mazzini gave him 4000 fr., telling him he was going to London to await the result of the attempt, and would then send him more money. He at the same time left him the address of a person through whom he was to write to him in case he wanted more funds. The address, in Mazzini's handwriting, was found on Greco's person. Among other papers was a copy of instructions from Mazzini written in cipher, and containing certain signs which he was to send him on the eve of the day the crime was to be attempted. Mazzini also gave him two photographic portraits of himself, with his name at the bottom written in his own hand. Those papers were found in Greco's trousers, between the lining and the cloth. There was also found in Greco's pocketbook a letter addressed by Imperatori to Mazzini, stating that, having heard of a plot for the murder of the Emperor, he claimed to be one of the party. Greco admitted that this letter had been handed to him at Lugano by Mazzini.

It was on Christmas Day that the men bent on this mission of blood arrived in Paris. It was at first said that they had come direct from London to France; but it appears from the depositions that they entered the French territory from Switzerland, and with passports perfectly *en règle*, without a single flaw, which had been given them by the Swiss authorities. Each had two shells uncharged on his person. From the day of their arrival to that of their arrest they changed their lodging more than once in order to throw the



police, whom they seemed to know were on the watch for them, off the scent. They did not all live together, but met in the daytime to concert the means of carrying out their object.

Greco, who appeared to be as eager an approver as he had been a conspirator, related to the judges every movement—every particular of himself and his accomplices since their coming to Paris. They had made a careful inspection of the approaches to the Opera in the Rue Lepelletier, and of those of the other theatres which the Emperor was in the habit of visiting. They had closely examined every place which gave access to the Palace of the Tuilleries, and repeatedly visited the Bois de Boulogne when the Emperor went to skate. Their plan was, that wherever, or whenever, the opportunity presented itself they were to throw their shells (said to be more destructive than those of Orsini) under his horse's feet, and at once rush on him and his attendants with their revolvers and poniards. Greco added that the poniards, which he had received from Mazzini, were poisoned, and it seems on examination that the points and blades are of a peculiar colour, as if they had been long steeped in some liquid. The conspirators, who declare that they were in constant correspondence with Mazzini, resolved to effect their purpose on Monday or Tuesday last at the Bois de Boulogne. On the previous Saturday the shells were loaded and everything prepared. They were, however, out of money, having already spent the 4000*fr.* Mazzini had given them in October. Their way of life contrasted strangely with the secret object on which they were bent. They had been constantly tracked by the police, and, from their frequent changes of domicile, seemed to be perfectly aware of it, yet they acted as if they wished to give every facility to those who were so vigilantly watching them. They denied themselves no pleasure; they lived joyously, and a dinner for the four cost over 200*fr.* They contemplated escaping from Paris after the perpetration of their crime; but, as they had spent their money in orgies of every kind, they wrote to Mazzini, who is now in London, for more. The Emperor had been kept acquainted with what was going on, but it did not prevent him from going out as usual, and the police, knowing that Monday or Tuesday was fixed for the attempt, made all sure by arresting the conspirators on Sunday evening. Imperatori and Trabucco describe themselves as formerly belonging to the band of Garibaldi, and as having taken part in the affair of Aspromonte when he was wounded; and both wore the Marsala medal. Trabucco, who had passed under another name, is said to have been tried and convicted in France for swindling, and in London for theft. Greco, the head of the party, was in a state of great excitement during his examination by the Judge d'Instruction. He blasphemed, foamed at the mouth, cursed himself for having failed, and declared that there were others bound like himself by oath to complete the crime.

### CONSTITUTIONALISM IN RUSSIA.

IMPORTANT political changes were to be promulgated in Russia on the 13th inst., and a letter from St. Petersburg gives details of the institutions about to be inaugurated, which possess more of a municipal and local than of an imperial character. The letter referred to says:—

The details supplied are not very definite. The principle is stated to be undeniably one which should form the programme of every Government "wishing to progress not by the path of disturbances and social calamities, but by that of order and prosperity; of every Government which feels itself strong and powerful, because knowing itself united to the nation by the indissoluble bonds of devotion and reciprocal confidence—the principle, namely, of "initiating the governed by degrees in the care of interests which may be confided to them, of admitting them to that participation in exact proportion to the interest of each, and of preparing and forming individuals by the management of local affairs for the management of those of a superior order, for the study, the discussion, and the application of laws." These are to be the principles of the provincial institutions in which the double danger of centralisation and provincialism is avoided by the subordination of local to general interests, "enjoying the necessary independence, but not escaping the control of the State."

There will be assemblies of districts and governments, the latter elected by the former. The right of electing members of the district assemblies, however, "will be independent of every principle of caste or birth. Accessible to all classes, it will be derived principally from property in land." District assemblies will meet once a year for ten days at a time, but each will have an executive committee sitting in permanence. The Government assemblies will be twenty days in session, and will also have permanent executive committees. The powers of the assemblies will only embrace local interests; nevertheless, the right of initiative and petition will be granted them, it is said, within a certain limit. The Minister of the Interior and the governors of provinces will have the duty of seeing that these limits are respected. In certain questions touching the prerogatives and rights of the State they will exercise a suspensive veto, against which the assemblies may appeal to the Senate.

### THE SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN QUESTION.

#### STATE OF THE OPPOSING PARTIES.

There is little change to report in the position of the Danish and German troops. The opposing forces face each other on the banks of the Eider—the Danes on the north and the Germans on the south side of the river—and the one seems indisposed to advance, while the other shows no disposition to retire. There is thus a pause in the operations, which may give time and opportunity for an attempt to obviate further difficulty being at least made, if it should not be successful. It is stated that the Danish Minister for Foreign Affairs has addressed a note to the Austrian Cabinet, indirectly admitting that Denmark had not fulfilled her engagements, and requesting that the negotiations between Denmark and Germany might be continued from the point at which they ceased in 1851-2. This proposition, it is reported, Austria has declined to entertain.

The Danes have opened the dams of the Eider near Tönningen, for the purpose of inundating the country. It is officially reported that the approach to Friederikstadt is partially obstructed. Postal communication, however, has not been interrupted.

King Christian inspected the fortifications of Friederikstadt on the 5th, and on the 7th visited Flensburg. Great activity prevails in the dockyards of Copenhagen, in order to get aloft a considerable fleet as quickly as possible.

The committee appointed by the Germanic Diet to report upon the Holstein question have laid before the Diet the result of their deliberations so far as regards the Treaty of London. They declare it as their opinion that that treaty was alike illegal and unjust, that it bore unfairly upon the rights of nations, and that it fundamentally violated the rights of Germany and the duchies. General von Roon, Prussian Minister of War, has addressed a letter to a "patriotic" association in Halle, in which he declares that he has no doubt the Prussian troops will soon have to make a winter campaign, and one that is likely to be bloody.

#### THE EXECUTION CORPS.

The army of execution in Holstein consists of a corps of Saxons and another of Hanoverians, with strong Prussian and Austrian divisions as a reserve. The Saxons and Hanoverians are the only troops who, as yet, have entered Holstein. One of our Engravings on page 40 represents the departure of the Saxon contingent. This brigade, consisting of four battalions of infantry, ten battalions of rifles, six squadrons of cavalry, two of foot and one mounted battery of artillery, pioneers, and pontooneers, with pontoons, two ambulance field hospitals, &c., is commanded, as well as the rest of the federal contingents, by Lieutenant-General von Hake. After the King had inspected and addressed them, the troops mostly proceeded by rail direct for Holstein. The batteries of artillery, however, each occupying a train of sixty trucks, were forwarded by way of Berlin, where they met with a hearty reception from the Prussians. After joining the Hanoverians on the frontier of Lauenburg they entered Holstein, leaving the Prussians in reserve at Lübeck and the Austrians at Hamburg.

Our other Engraving represents the passage of the Austrian contingent through Leipzig. This corps, under the command of Lieutenant-General Count Leopold Goudereourt, consists of 5502 rank and file, 172 officers, and 8 guns. The officers are generally good-looking and powerful men, but the Austrian contingent was principally noticeable for the great care with which the troops were clad, and the provision made against the cold winter of Northern

Germany. Being quartered in Leipzig for twelve hours' rest, they were well received by the people. Very few of the men were able to speak German; the non-commissioned officers, on the contrary, were generally good linguists, speaking, besides German, two or more of the various dialects spoken in Austria. These men had the appearance of being old soldiers, and of having seen the world and some service.

#### THE PRUSSIAN POLICY.

According to a Berlin correspondent, the most ambitious projects are attributed to Count von Bismarck. He harbours, it is supposed, the bold idea of occupying the duchies with Prussian troops for Prussian purposes; that is to say, Prince Frederick is to be set aside as well as the claims of Denmark. To a suspicion of these audacious designs is attributed the expected arrival northward of a very large number of Austrian troops. The correspondent thinks it extremely doubtful that the Prussian Monarch would support him in any such scheme.

#### THE DANNEVERKE.

The correspondent of a contemporary describes as follows the strength of the Danish works on this famous line of defence in front of Schleswig, which he derives from a gentleman who has just visited them:—As far as I could judge, without exhibiting any suspicious curiosity, the works consist of about fifteen separate batteries, two of which, armed with 84-pounders, command the road and the railway. Besides the above, I counted five closed earth-works armed with 12-pounders; in the other and smaller works six and eight pounder field guns are placed in position. I could see but very few rifled cannon. Those parts of the works that have lately been completed are partially defended by palisades. The sudden frost has evidently interfered with the progress of the works. The moats of the inclosed works are only furnished as yet with palisades turned towards the glacis, but they are fixed so very horizontally that they can offer no serious opposition to a determined assault. Whilst I was strolling over the place, the troops had by degrees collected for a review, and it was evident how much stronger a force would be required to defend the position; the ten thousand men drawn up were absolutely lost in the immense extent of the position.

#### DESPATCH OF EARL RUSSELL TO THE FRANKFURT DIET.

Earl Russell has lately addressed the following despatch on the Schleswig-Holstein question to our representative to the German Federal Diet:—

Foreign Office, London, Dec. 31.

The events which have taken place since the death of King Frederick VII. have produced a lively impression upon the Government of the Queen. At first, appearances were a favourable aspect. The successor of Frederick VII. had been recognised in both Schleswig and Holstein, as well as in Denmark Proper. A few professors and judges declined to take the oath of allegiance; but, on the whole, tranquillity and obedience were generally observed. Recognition by France, Great Britain, Russia, and Sweden followed this internal assent. In Germany a very different spirit reigned. Some of the States and their rulers, who had acceded to the Treaty of London of 1852, have been the first to uphold the pretensions of the Duke of Augustenburg. Austria and Prussia have adopted a more moderate course, for they have not altogether rejected the title of Christian IX. to the throne. They made the recognition of his right dependent on the accomplishment of the engagements entered into by his predecessor in 1851 and 1852. The Government of the Queen cannot admit either of these views. It cannot recognise any claims of the Duke of Augustenburg which may be at variance with the obligations entered into by her Majesty in consequence of the Treaty of London of 1852. The Government of the Queen considers that Denmark should remain faithful to engagements already contracted, but cannot admit that the right of Christian IX. to the crown is at all dependent on the fulfilment of those engagements. Whilst, therefore, her Majesty's Government most readily recognised the successor of Frederick VII., it insisted, in conjunction with France and Russia, on the fulfilment of all the obligations of his crown in connection with Germany. Nor can her Majesty's Government doubt the inclination of the King to fulfil these obligations. By birth a German Prince, there can be no question of his desire to treat his German and Danish subjects with equal favour. Whatever ground of complaint the partisanship of the Danish officials of the late King may have afforded, it is thought that these causes of dissatisfaction will, in all probability, be set aside in consequence of the equal treatment and impartial proceedings of the new Sovereign. Unfortunately, two hindrances oppose the accomplishment of the views of the friends of peace. The first is the Constitution of Denmark-Schleswig accepted last November by the Rigsraad at Copenhagen; the second is the attitude of Germany. The new Constitution of Denmark seems to her Majesty's Government to tend to an incorporation of Schleswig, and as such to be opposed to the obligations of the Danish Crown. In fact, the defence of the Danish Minister on this point is far from satisfactory. But the observations of M. Hall, in reference to the other point—viz., to the present attitude of Germany, are very important. His arguments may be stated nearly as follows:—Denmark has withdrawn the Royal patent of last March for Holstein. She has peacefully submitted to federal execution, although she did not believe it based on federal right. The retraction of the Constitution recently introduced for Denmark and Schleswig is now demanded. But what security is offered to her that this will be the last concession that will be demanded? A new Constitution for Schleswig, and a common Constitution for the monarchy, are already put forward as reasons out of which new claims and further demands are to be deduced in future. When, lastly, may Denmark hope for a stop to these incessant requirements? If her independence is to be preserved, it would be better that she should now offer resistance than allow herself to be weakened by continual but useless concessions. Although, in the opinion of her Majesty's Government, M. Hall takes up an erroneous position, it yet finds much general truth in the arguments he puts forth. Denmark has a right to know the limits of the claims of Germany and to be placed in a position to bring this long and fatiguing dispute to a conclusion. Even although Denmark may have withdrawn from her obligations for eleven years, and even although Germany may have annoyed Denmark with unfounded and impossible claims for that period, it is now time that an end be put to the conflict. The Powers who signed the Treaty of London, together with the German Confederation, are those first bound to establish the arrangements and terms of ultimate agreement. The Government of the Queen therefore demands, in the interests of peace,—1. That a conference of the Powers which signed the Treaty of London, in conjunction with a representative of the German Confederation, shall meet in Paris or London to settle the differences between Germany and Denmark. 2. That the *status quo* shall be maintained until this conference shall have finished its labours. Her Majesty's Government believes itself justified in making these demands for the sake of the peace of Europe. It has no other interest in respect to Denmark than that which belongs to one of the old and independent monarchies of Europe. But it has an interest in the maintenance of European peace. It calls, therefore, in the most pressing manner upon the Sovereigns and their Cabinets to take into consideration how difficult it would be to settle the differences if they had once been subjected to the bloody arbitrament of war. Who can foresee what extent such a war might acquire, what passions it might arouse, what districts might be desolated by its ravages? It is of itself a matter of comparatively slight importance whether a Prince of the house of Glücksburg or a Prince of the house of Augustenburg rules in Holstein or in Schleswig. The freedom and privileges of the subject can be equally secured under either of the two Princes; but it is of great importance that the faith of treaties should be upheld, that right and possession should be respected, and that the flames of war should not be spread over Europe through questions which quiet and timely exercise of justice and reason might conduct to a peaceful solution.

#### FRENCH CIRCULAR TO THE GERMAN STATES.

France has addressed a circular note to the secondary German States explaining her position in reference to the proposal of England for the assembling of a conference on the Schleswig-Holstein question. It is asserted that France states in this circular note that the London Conference of 1852 had only created an impotent work, which has been condemned by events. A new conference must be based upon proper conditions. Such a conference must take as its starting-point the state of things now existing in Holstein, and must not be in opposition to the Federal Diet, as it would discuss questions which might have already been resolved by events. France would also wish the Diet to be represented at this conference, but must first know whether the Diet, which has hitherto objected to the interference of the foreign Powers who signed the protocol of London in the quarrel with Denmark, has changed its views on that subject.

A SUBTERRANEAN HUNT.—An extraordinary battle has just taken place in the sewers of Paris. Taking advantage of the frost, which drives this particular game into cover, the owner invited a Christmas party to partake of the sport of rat killing. All the great sewers were driven in one direction, till millions of rats, which fought among themselves like tigers as they were hunted along, were collected in the large drain by the bridge of Asnières. Forty dogs were then let down into the sewers, and after a fight which lasted forty-five hours, and in which four dogs were killed and some blinded, no less than 110,000 rats were despatched.

### THE POPE AND THE SPIRIT-RAPPER.

A LETTER from Rome, of the 6th, states that Mr. Home, of spiritualism notoriety, had been ordered to leave Rome in three days. The following is a report of the proceedings in his own words:—

Jan. 2.—Received a letter requesting my presence before the police on the 3rd inst., between the hours of ten and one. Jan. 3.—Went, and was shown to the room of the Advocate Pasqualoni. I was accompanied by my friend, M. Gouthier, Consul of Greece in Rome. The questions were as follow:—"The names of my father and mother?—Have you published a book?—Yes.—Your profession?—An art-student.—Your residence?—65, Via del Tritone.—When did you arrive?—Six weeks ago.—How many times have you been in Rome?—Twice.—How long did you stay each time?—Two months the first and three weeks the last.—How long do you intend to remain this time?—Till April.—Have you a fixed residence in France?—No.—How many books have you written?—One.—How many copies have been sold?—As I am not my own publisher it would be impossible to say.—After you became a Catholic did you exercise your power as a medium?—Neither before nor after did I exercise my power as a medium, inasmuch as it is not a power dependent on my will; I could not use it.—How do you make these things?—I think the reply I have just given is sufficient for this.—Do you consider your power a gift of nature?—No; I consider it a gift of God.—What constitutes a trance?—A study of physiology will explain this better than I can.—Do you see the spirits asleep and awake?—Both.—Why do the spirits come to you?—As a consolation, and to convince those who do not believe in the after existence of the soul.—What religion do they teach?—That depends.—What do you do to make them come?—I was about to reply that I did nothing, when on the table where he was writing there came clear and distinct raps. He then said, "But the table also moves!" Just as he was saying it the table did move.—"What is the age of your child?—Four and a half.—Where is he?—At Malvern.—With whom?—Dr. Gully.—Is Dr. Gully a Catholic?—No.—When did you last see your child?—Two months ago.—When do you expect to see him again?—In April." He then said, without assigning any reason, that I must leave Rome in three days. "Do you consent?—No, most decidedly not, inasmuch as I have done nothing to infringe the laws of this or any other country. I will consult with the English Consul and be guided by him."

"Such," writes a correspondent, "is the report of a procedure which is eminently characteristic of pontifical government. On Monday morning the British Consul saw Monsignor Mattucci, the Governor of Rome, and complained that any British subject should be interfered with in consequence of his opinions. He stated that Mr. Home had conducted himself during his residence in Rome in a strictly legal and gentlemanly manner, and demanded that the obnoxious order should be rescinded. Monsignor spoke of dangerous powers of fascination, of the prohibition by the Government of all the practices of the black art, and finally assented to Mr. Home's remaining, on condition of his entering into an engagement, through Mr. Severn, that he would desist from all communications with the spiritual world during his stay in Rome. An agreement to that effect was drawn up and signed by Mr. Home, who will henceforward abstain from all communication with the upper or lower world, as the case may be, during his residence in Rome."

### FIRES IN LONDON IN 1863.

CAPTAIN SHAW'S report to the Committee for Managing the London Fire-engine Brigade Establishment of the London fires of 1863 has just been issued.

The total number of calls received during the year 1863 has been 1624. Of these 81 were false alarms, 139 proved to be only chimney alarms, 1404 were fires of which 39 resulted in total destruction of buildings, &c., 310 in serious damage, and 1055 in slight damage. The fires of 1863, compared with those of 1862, show an increase of 101, and compared with the average of the previous thirty years, the increase is 582. The totally destroyed list, 39, compared with that of 1862, shows an increase in number of 6, but, compared with the average proportion of the thirty previous years, there is a decrease of 9. Of the buildings destroyed, 4 were over two miles from the nearest station, 7 over three, 1 over five, 2 over six, 2 over seven, 1 over eight, 1 over eleven, and 1 over twelve miles; 3 were lost for want of water; and 1 fell down before the fire could be extinguished. Of the 39, 18 were completely alight, and 17 others burnt down before the arrival of the engines. Although this list is numerically in excess of that of last year, in point of value the losses are for the most part trifling, and the generality of the places destroyed are of that class which, when once on fire, can very rarely be saved by any exertions on the part of a fire-brigade.

During the past year the telegraph has been extended from the foremen's stations to those in their respective districts, thus completing the communication throughout the establishment from the chief station, in which Captain Shaw resides, to those most remote in Ratcliff, Baker-street, Westminster, and Rotherhithe respectively. Every line is complete in itself, with a dial or alphabetical instrument at each end. Thus a passage or break in any one line does not interfere with the general communication, as would be the case if several stations were on one circuit. From Watling-street Captain Shaw ordinarily communicates only with the foremen, and, through them, with the stations in their respective districts; but, by a simple contrivance, he can at any moment be placed in direct communication with any station, thus avoiding the delay caused by repeating messages at an intermediate point. "I have adopted this mode (says Captain Shaw), not only in order to be able to collect the necessary force of men and engines at any given spot in the shortest possible time according to my requirements at the moment, but also for the purpose of avoiding the errors inseparable from a system of mere alarms as used in America, by which the whole force of a fire-brigade is liable to be constantly turned out for matters of very little consequence, it being an invariable rule that the importance of every fire is greatly exaggerated by monetary panic in the vicinity. The saving thus effected in the time and labour of the men as compared with the old system of running with 'calls' and 'stops' from station to station is in itself a great addition to the available strength of the establishment, and that at the very time when the services of skilled firemen are most needed, while the advantage of rapidly transmitting the calls, and thus ensuring the early arrival of men and engines at fires is incalculable; besides which, I am now enabled to issue orders and conduct almost the whole of the duties of the establishment by this means in a much quicker and more satisfactory manner than formerly."

The land steam engines continue to render valuable aid at all fires, large and small. These machines have been considerably improved during the past year, and are now adapted to throw jets of every size, from a quarter of an inch to an inch and a half. It is a remarkable fact, which ought to be noticed in connection with the subject of land steamers, that some of their best services have been at those fires which have resulted in total destruction of the premises which first took light, and although they have been only about two years in operation, many instances can already be cited in which the property actually at risk and saved by their means has been, in point of value, upwards of a thousand per cent in excess of that destroyed. The recent addition of three land steam fire-engines, taken on hire, has proved a most important accession to the strength of the establishment.

Notwithstanding the greatly increased number of fires, the list of casualties to firemen for 1863 is five less than that of the previous year. There have been 86 cases of illness, totally incapacitating the men from duty, against 88 cases for the year 1862; but, although less in number, more severe in character. Of the total number, 23 have arisen from accident, and several of a very severe form, demonstrating the hazardous nature of the employment.

"At the close of another year," concludes the superintendent, "it has again become my pleasing duty to bear testimony to the general efficiency and excellent conduct of all ranks of the establishment, and to state my most sincere belief that the steadiness, unanimity, fearlessness, and zeal with which they devote themselves to the arduous duties of their profession fully entitle them to that confidence and liberality of which they receive such numerous instances at your hands. In conclusion, I beg to express my most sincere gratitude for the sympathy and support which I have received from you, individually and collectively, at all times, but more especially on the occasion of my recent accident; and at the same time I beg to assure you that no exertion shall be wanting on my part to merit a continuance of your confidence."

SHIPWRECKS ON THE NORTHERN COAST.—Early on Monday morning, during very thick, stormy weather, guns were fired as signals of distress from a large vessel upon the rocks at Newbiggin Point, Northumberland. The boat of the National Life-boat Institution was at once manned and launched, and succeeded in getting alongside the ship and saving all on board, consisting of fourteen men and one woman, and afterwards in bringing them safely ashore. The vessel proved to be the barque King Oscar, of Kragere, Norway, bound from Christiansund to Newcastle-upon-Tyne with timber. The surf was fast breaking the vessel to pieces. The life-boat is reported to have behaved very well on the occasion. Last year the life-boats of the institution saved 417 shipwrecked persons on our coast. Having 125 life-boats under its management, and each boat requiring £50 a year to keep it in a state of efficiency, the committee are earnestly appealing for assistance. Mr. W. N. Budge has collected upwards of £600 on the Stock Exchange for the institution.

THE HUMAN HAIR.—Black hair is to be found in every part of the globe—equatorial, arctic, or temperate; whether in the Esquimaux, Negri, Brahmin, Hindoo, Malay, or in many Europeans. The light-haired races, of whom the tint varies through the imperceptible shades of flaxen, yellow, straw-yellow, golden-yellow, red, fiery-red, reddish-brown, clear-brown, dark or chestnut brown, are nearly as widely spread, and indicate—especially the clear, blonde tint—the Germanic, Slavonic, and Celtic divisions of the "Aryan" race, the Finnic branch of the Turanian, in the Caucasus, Armenia, amongst the Semites of Syria, sometimes amongst the Jews, and perhaps in Africa, amongst the Berbers of the Atlas. Red hair, on the other hand, is represented amongst all the known races. The colour alone of the hair M. Pruner-Bey considers to be inadequate to characterise race. The head of hair becomes smooth when the individual hairs are recumbent, curled when they curve at their extremities, frizzed when they are composed of curves throughout their whole length, and crisp when they are disposed in more or less large rings, which resemble those of wool.



THE TOWN AND FORTIFICATIONS OF ADEN.

SOME two thousand years ago Aden was a place of military importance, and connected with that great trade in gums and spices which were brought from Africa by the Somalis. Its flourishing condition at that time may be discovered by the ruins still existing of the great stone-lined cisterns excavated in the rock on the north-west side of the town, by the remains of the fine aqueduct which brought water from the mountain ravine, and the heaps of former fortifications.

Aden has been liable to many vicissitudes in succeeding ages, however, and fell beneath a gradual but certain decay after the discovery of the passage to India by way of the Cape; so that, from a population of 30,000 in the seventeenth century, it had so dwindled down in 1835 that only twenty families were engaged in its trade, and the inhabitants numbered no more than 600 or 700. Salt, in his travels, describes the place as a wretched heap of ruins and huts, situated under a scorching climate, and inhabited by an unhealthy-looking race of Arabs, the lower classes of whom are very depraved in their morals.

In 1837, however, a marauding sheikh, who was, in fact, lord of the adjoining country, took the liberty of plundering a Madras ship sailing under English colours, which had gone ashore at Aden; and, as a consequence, the East India Company, having first effected the chastisement of the offender, entered into negotiations for the purchase not only of the

town but of the whole peninsula. A bargain was ultimately made, and the sheikh gave up possession; but his son afterwards endeavoured to disclaim the agreement, and consequently an armament took forcible possession in 1839. The crafty attempts subsequently made by the native rulers to surprise the garrison have doubtless been instrumental in raising Aden to a place of great importance; and it has naturally resumed its position as a great commercial emporium, to which the native populations have gathered to enjoy the advantages of trade and of British protection.

Aden is, by its geographical position, eminently adapted for an emporium at which the rich products of north-east Africa and "Arabia the Blest"—balaams, drugs, coffee, gum, gold, frankincense, and myrrh—may be exchanged for the raw material or manufactured goods of distant countries. It is situated upon the north-east side of a rocky peninsula called Cape Aden, projecting about five miles south from the coast, and about two miles to three miles and a half broad. This is connected with the mainland by a low isthmus about three quarters of a mile wide, composed partly of sand and partly of rock. The highest part of the peninsula is 1776 ft. above sea level—300 ft. higher than the rock of Gibraltar. There are other heights of respectively, 1000 ft. and 1237 ft., the whole group being called Jebel Shamshan. The rocks, which are of igneous origin, are bleak, bare, and barren; and the town itself stands in an old crater, deeply breached at its seaward edge; while the island is still guarded by high, rocky walls.

There are two harbours—the outer, or eastern one, protected by the Island of Sceerah, small and almost blocked up with sand; and the inner or western harbour, which is wide, deep, and safe. The latter is of the form of a gulf; and the connecting strait has two islands, both of which, like the adjoining shore, are capable of being strongly fortified, so that they may completely command the entrance. The scenery round this western, or "Back," Bay (Bander Tu-way-yi), is singularly wild, rugged, and imposing; and the approach to the town, about a mile and a half distant, is through a deep chasm, part of which has been formed by cutting the rock.

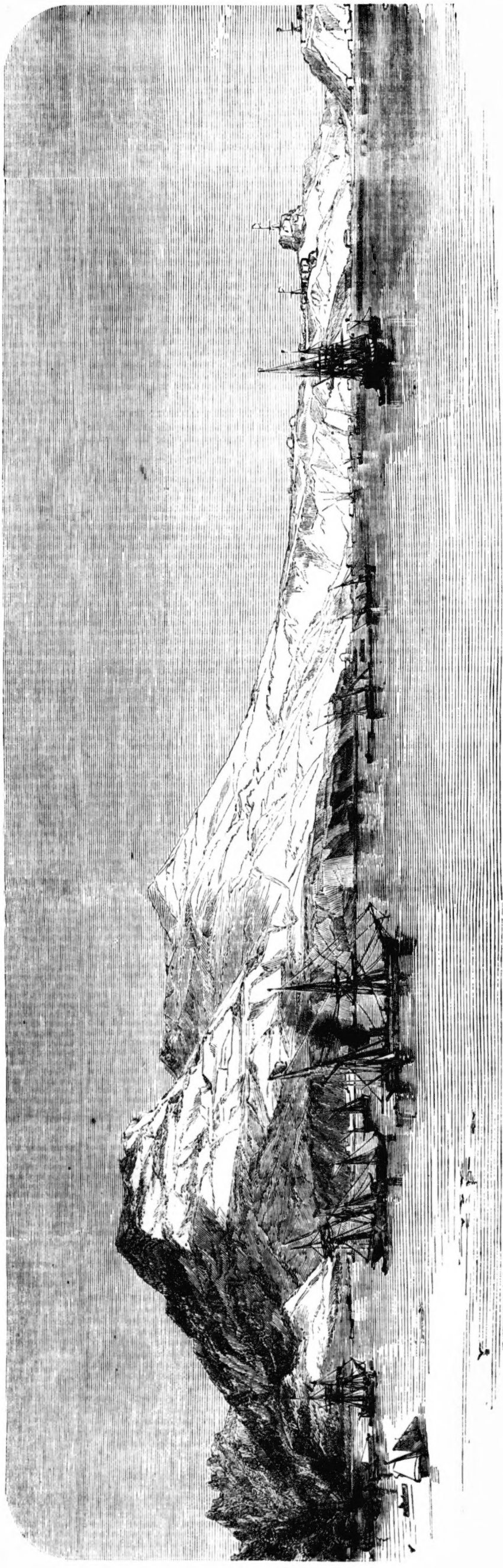
The general aspect of the harbour and its fortifications bears a striking resemblance to that of Gibraltar; and in its present condition, with a population of about 50,000 souls, it is unquestionably one of the strongest and most important stations in the possession of Great Britain.

M. THIERS ON FRENCH LIBERTY.

THIS discussion on the Budget in the French Chamber of Deputies has been opened by M. Thiers with a speech, or what they would call in America an oration, in which he embraces the whole of the domestic policy of France, and the history of the Governments which have swayed her destinies, from the time of the First Napoleon to the present day. In order to form an estimate of the present political situation of France, M. Thiers

feels bound to investigate and deduce for himself, from principles purely abstract and *a priori*, the true theory of politics in general. There are three things which he considers necessary and fundamental principles of government—national sovereignty, order, and liberty; and this liberty is of five kinds—personal liberty, the liberty of the press, liberty of election, the liberty of the representatives of the nation, and the liberty of debating such questions as may arise with the responsible Ministers of the Sovereign. Having provided himself with this formidable logical apparatus—having forged with his own hand, and in the presence of his audience, the weapons which he is to employ in the conduct upon which he enters, M. Thiers sets himself to criticise the present Constitution of France, and to show that each of the five kinds of liberty of which he speaks is fettered or destroyed by the existing Constitution.

The task, as may be readily inferred, is by no means difficult. It is, indeed, so easy, that it almost seems to cast ridicule on the tremendous apparatus which is brought to bear against it. There is little need of heavy guns to overthrow a wall which is in ruins already; that reality of weakness being conceded by a rampart of pasteboard. That personal liberty is not fully enjoyed in France, even up to what M. Thiers calls the necessary point, results from the laws which were passed after the attempt of Orsini. That the liberty of the press does not exist completely is shown by the fact that the press, whose business it is to criticise the Government,



GENERAL VIEW OF ADEN.

it itself placed under the power of that Government to warn, to suspend, and to suppress. The reviewer must take the author into his councils, criticising with the utmost impartiality, but taking care, under the heaviest penalties, to say nothing disagreeable to the person criticised. The principle is admitted, but nullified by the restraints under which it is applied. As regards electoral liberty, M. Thiers has the same equally in his own hands. Universal suffrage is the great resource of modern times. It is permitted to decide on the fate of kingdoms and dynasties. Italy, Greece, Mexico, and France herself have received their reigning dynasties from this source. No wonder that universal suffrage is called in for the smaller business of electing the French Chambers. But when employed for this purpose it is thus addressed—"Oh! you are very respectable, but most frequently you do not know how to read or write; you are singularly credulous, and capable of believing all that the Opposition members tell you, so that we find it necessary to dictate your choice." The elector may elect just as the editor may criticise—that is, provided the criticism is agreeable to the Government, and provided the candidate is agreeable to the prefect. As to the fourth kind of liberty, M. Thiers claims the power of introducing such questions as the Chamber pleases, instead of having its proceedings traced for it by the Government; and, moreover, that the Assembly should really have control over the finances and all other questions which come legitimately under

its deliberations. As to the fifth kind of liberty, he asks for responsible government—for the abolition of the rule which vests the power of acting in one Minister and the duty of defending what is done in another. All these things, M. Thiers thinks, might be conceded by a few alterations in law and in practice without materially altering the existing Constitution; and, if they were conceded, he is of opinion that France would have little right to complain on the score of freedom. He deprecates any attempt to depreciate his proposals because they would bring the Constitution into closer similarity with that of England. He says truly these are not the principles of English liberty only, but of liberty in general. The abstinence of the Executive from any interference with personal liberty, with the liberty of the press, the liberty of election, and the liberty of free discussion, and the government by responsible Ministers which renders it possible to effect a change in administration without a revolution—these are truly the minimum, the very smallest amount of powers and privileges which entitle a people to call themselves free.

M. Thiers justifies his return to public life by the analogy of his conduct in the case of the Republic—a form of government which he did not approve, but under which he rendered the public essential services. He further justifies himself by reference to the concessions in a liberal direction made by the Emperor, by the advice which he had given to his friends to take the oath of allegiance to the existing Government, and by the con-

sideration that at his age, and after the posits which he has filled, he cannot be for a moment accused of any personal or selfish object.

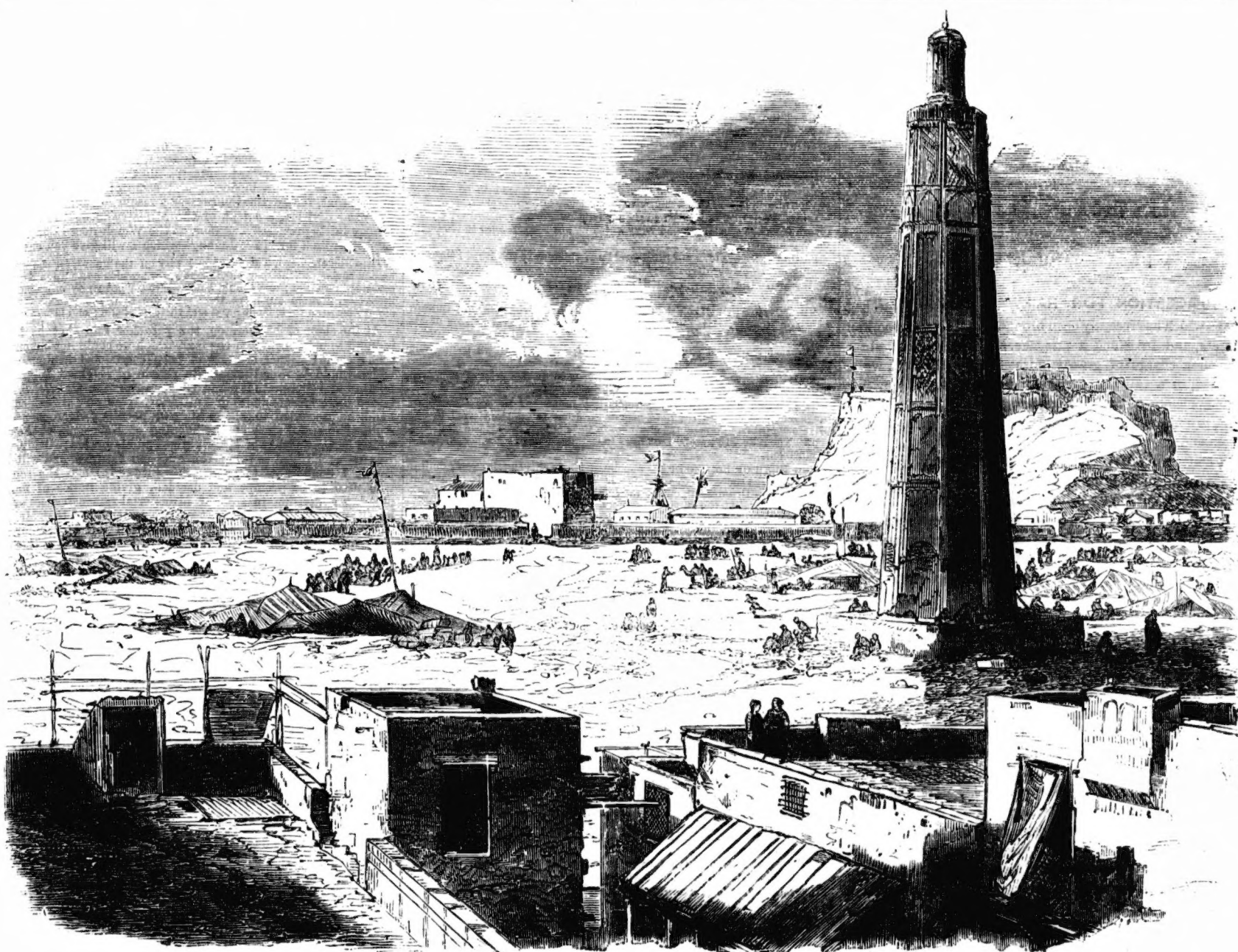
M. Thiers concluded as follows:—

"I am convinced that the country has such a desire for true and whole some liberty that the Government which shall give it will be frankly and sincerely accepted by all. I have served an august family, now in misfortune, to whom I owe all the respect due to nobly-supported trials, and the affection due to those with whom I have passed the most brilliant part of my life. There is something which I do not owe them, and which they would not ask of me—but which the pride of my heart gives them willingly—that of living in retirement, and not showing them the spectacle of one of their servants seeking the éclat of power when they are in exile. There is a last thing which I call Heaven to witness they never have required, and never will ask of me, and that is to sacrifice to them the interests of my country. I therefore declare that if those liberties of which I believe the country to be seriously in need are given to us I shall accept them, and I may then be reckoned among the number of the submissive and grateful citizens of the empire. But, gentlemen, if our duty is to accept, it is that of the Government to grant what is necessary to satisfy the legitimate wishes of the people. It is with respect that I ask it, not for myself, but for my country. Let it not be forgotten that France, scarcely awakened, and with whom the exagger-

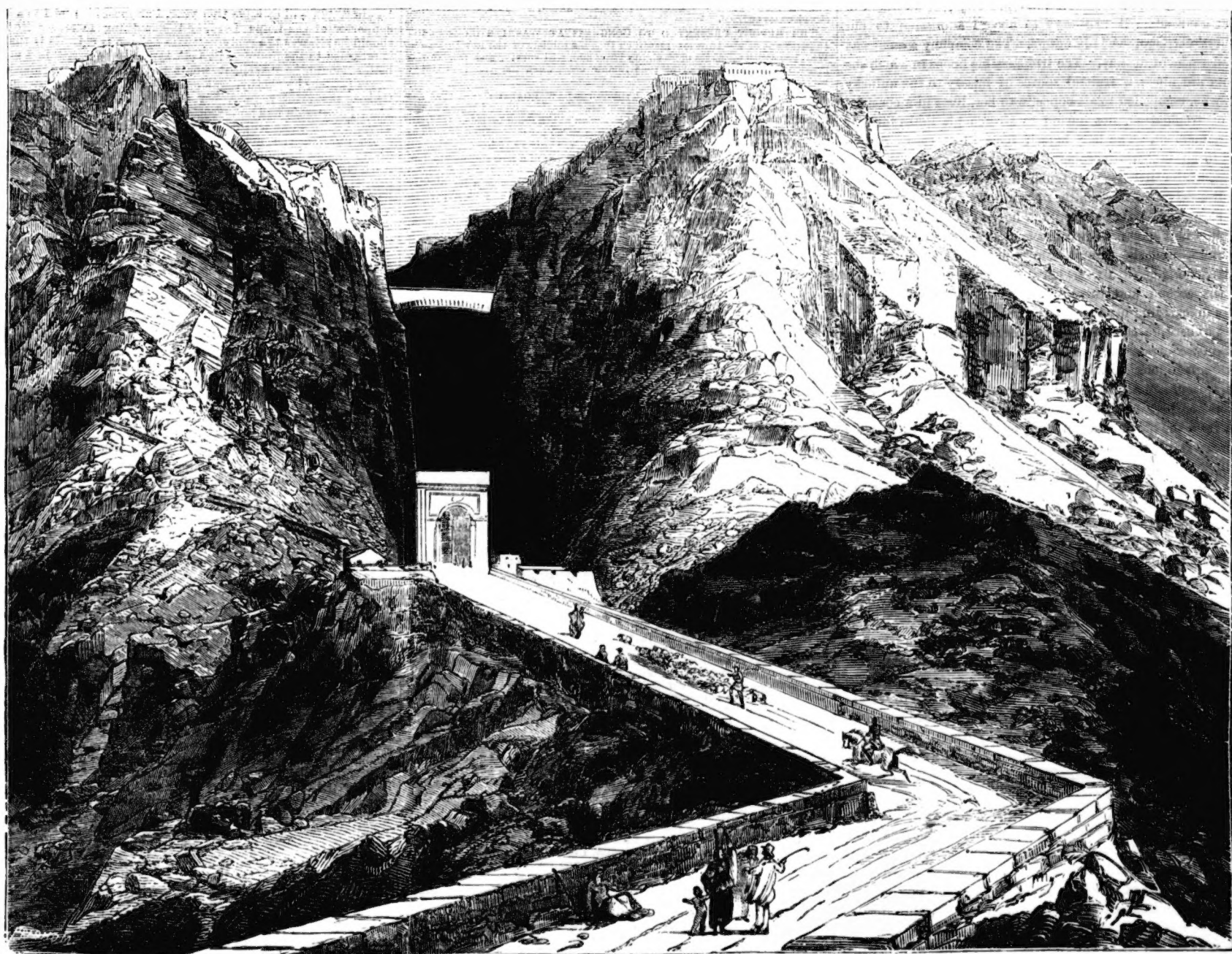
ation of desire is so prompt, if she now allows it to be asked for in a deferential and respectful manner, may, perhaps, one day exact it."

THE FEDERALS AND CONFEDERATES IN FRENCH WATERS.—An exciting chase took place a few days since off the port of Brest, in consequence of the commander of the Federal corvette Kearsage mistaking the French war-steamer Renaudin for the Confederate corvette Florida. The Kearsage was cruising off Ushant, watching for the Florida, having received orders to attack the Confederate steamer on her quitting Brest. The Renaudin, which resembles the Florida, was going out to sea, and was passing Iroise, when the Captain of the Kearsage gave chase. The commander of the French ship having made himself known, the Captain of the Kearsage hastened to apologise. This incident, it appears, has attracted the attention of the French naval authorities, and proved to them that the captain of the American steamer may involuntarily attack his adversary in French waters, of which he is not well acquainted with the boundaries. The Port Admiral at Brest has, consequently, given orders that the steam-ship of the line Wagram shall watch the movements of the two ships and prevent them from engaging in French waters. The Florida, moreover, is not yet ready for sea. She made a trial-trip on the 6th inst., and the log gave a speed of thirteen knots an hour, even within the *golvet*. The Confederate corvette Kearsage is still in the port of Calais, under repairs.





THE LIGHTHOUSE, ADEN.



THE FORTIFICATIONS, ADEN.



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## ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1864.

## A SUGGESTION FOR RAILWAY COMPANIES.

A CASE which has recently been brought before a metropolitan magistrate, and in which a prisoner has been committed for trial upon a charge of grossly misconducting himself, while intoxicated, in a railway-carriage, induces us to offer a few remarks upon one or two matters especially productive of discomfort, grumbling, and protest in the present system of train management.

Three matters in relation hereto have formed, recently, subjects of public comment and discussion. These are the prohibition of smoking, the custom of bribing guards and porters, and the annoyance to which ladies are subjected by the rudeness of male "fellow" passengers. It has not yet been suggested that all these evils arise from one cause, and might be in a great measure obviated by one simple remedy; and yet such is the fact.

The whole basis of complaint lies in the promiscuous manner in which the carriages are allowed to be filled. Except upon some of the best-conducted lines, and in the most expensive trains, the only distinction among the passengers is that of class. The solitary traveller who can afford to pay for his comfort, upon reaching the train by which he is to be conveyed, takes it quite as a matter of course to whisper to the guard, "Don't let any ladies in," as he slips a coin into the official's ready palm, and is accordingly ushered into an unoccupied carriage. Thither, perhaps, before the train starts, come two or three other male voyagers, each of them having availed himself of similar preliminaries, and casting on his entry a glance around to make sure of the absence of the proscribed sex. No sooner has the train started than cigars are lighted, and conversation begins. If the journey be long, and the carriage not too full, the guard will bring short boards which, artfully adjusted across the carriage, and aided by the spare cushions, form couches as agreeable as those of any London club.

But a change happens. The protecting guard transfers his post to another who has received no gratuity; or an influx of passengers renders it necessary to accord admission to our travellers' carriage. A lady enters. The company assumes at once an aspect of dismay. The irrepressible hoops in which she delights are alone a fruitful source of misery to the unlucky wight who, compelled to sit opposite to her, lives in a constant state of trepidation, not daring to stretch his limbs for fear of entanglement. The lady herself feels ill at ease. Accustomed to an indoor atmosphere, warmer and closer than that of men, whose time is spent much in the open air, she creates some discomfort in the matter of windows. When the train stops at a refreshment-station, her hoops are in the way alike of ingress and egress. Unaccustomed as she is to be regarded as an annoyance, she cannot help feeling that the interior of that carriage is decidedly not her proper sphere.

In the second and third class, whether she occasionally persists in carrying her baby, the tender duties of maternity are apt to become as distressing to herself as to her *vis-à-vis*, who vainly contracts a crick in the neck from persevering in the attempt to look anywhere rather than straight before him. Perhaps, to crown all, in either case, a drunken ruffian enters, who has had just sufficient left of his wits to disguise his condition from the officials in the hurry of departure. But for her presence a single vigorous fellow-passenger might manage him well enough, by administering such a hearty shaking as would suffice to bring him to tolerably sober senses. Or his travelling companions might even bear patiently with him; but, as this kind of fellow always considers the presence of a lady an incentive to blackguardism, he usually ends by involving the most peaceable man present in a broil, and probably the subsequent ineffable annoyance of appearance at a police court.

Thus are exemplified the three railway evils to which we adverted in the first instance. They all arise from the one cause—the promiscuous intermingling of the passengers. The one simple remedy is to devote one or more carriages exclusively to male, and so many as may be required to female, passengers. Of course a certain number of travellers will consist of ladies accompanied by their escort, and these might well be located, as at present, in the carriages not otherwise specially set apart. The selection of such a carriage need not in any case be compulsory upon any who might prefer to travel, as at present, in mixed company. The improvement which we have ventured to suggest would entail neither difficulty nor expense. A simple ticket affixed to the door of a carriage would be all that would be required to save an incredible amount of constant annoyance to travellers, and to preclude the necessity of practising upon the corruptibility of railway subordinates. Moreover, the prohibition of smoking, which now causes so much ill-will, and leads to so many disputes, would cease to be annoying if confined to the ordinary non-reserved carriages, and not insisted upon in those designated for the conveyance of the sterner sex.

## SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE PRINCESS OF WALES was safely delivered of a fine boy about nine o'clock on the evening of the 8th inst. Her Royal Highness and the infant Prince are "doing well."

HER MAJESTY, who came up to Windsor immediately after the accomplishment of the Princess of Wales, and has been unremitting in her attentions to her Royal daughter-in-law, returned to Osborne on Wednesday.

THE QUEEN has sent a donation of £100 to the funds of the Society for the Relief of Destitution in London, 4, St. Martin's-place, Trafalgar-square.

DR. STANLEY was installed Dean of Westminster on Saturday last.

THE COMTE DE PARIS, who is now at Seville, is engaged to be married to the Infanta Isabel, eldest daughter of the Duke of Montpensier.

LORD WODEHOUSE arrived in London on Wednesday morning, on his return from the special mission with which he has been charged to the Court of Copenhagen.

PARLIAMENT was formally prorogued on Wednesday to the 4th of February, then to meet "for the despatch of divers urgent and important affairs."

MR. AND MRS. CHARLES KEAN are having a triumphant success in Australia.

MR. JUSTICE SHEE took the oaths and his seat in the Court of Queen's Bench on Monday. His Lordship received the warm congratulations of his brother Judges and the Bar.

THERE is to be an exhibition at Turin of the cotton grown in different parts of Italy.

A DANISH Five per Cent Loan for £1,200,000, at the price of £93, was introduced on the London Money Market on Tuesday.

THE QUEEN OF SPAIN, being somewhat indisposed in consequence of pregnancy, has ordered the right arm of St. John to be transferred to her private chapel from one of the churches in Catalonia, where it has long been kept. The relic will not be sent back to Catalonia until after her Majesty's confinement.

THE DUKE OF SOMERSET has appointed Sir Lucius Curtis to be Admiral of the Fleet, as successor to the late Sir Wm. Hall Gage. His promotion raises Captain Drummond, one of the Lords of the Admiralty, to the rank of Rear-Admiral of the Blue.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL LORD ARINGER, of the Scots Fusilier Guards, has been married, at Montreal, to Miss Ella Magruder, daughter of Commodore Magruder, late of the United States' Navy, and niece of Major-General J. B. Magruder, commanding Confederate forces in Texas.

A FIRE HAS TAKEN PLACE IN THE TREASURY OFFICES AT TURIN. Great part of the library is said to have been destroyed.

THE DEATH OF ARNOLDI, Bishop of Treves, of holy coat celebrity, is announced as having taken place, by apoplexy, on the 7th inst.

MR. THACKERAY, before his death, settled £300 a year on each of his two daughters. He leaves behind a considerable amount of property besides.

A RIVAL TO NIAGARA is said to have been discovered in the valley of the Snake, or Lewis Fork of the Columbia.

MARSHAL NARVAEZ declared, in a late debate in the Spanish Cortes, that he had always regarded Gibraltar as belonging to Spain, and he regretted that Spain had not claimed it long ago.

FRAUDS to the extent of £3500 have been discovered in the accounts of James Woodward, actuary of the Neston savings bank.

THE SHIP THOMSON HANKE, JUN., Monk, master, sailed from the Mauritius on the 24th of July for London, was off St. Helena on the 15th of September, and has not since been heard of.

A WOLF recently made a raid through three villages in Galicia, and, before the animal was killed, it had wounded a number of persons.

"LIEUTENANT ROOKS, of the British Army," is stated to have been arrested in New York as he was about to sail to Bermuda, a large number of unstamped letters and several inflammatory pieces of poetry being in his possession.

MR. PETER FLETCHER, a farmer in the wolds of Yorkshire, has been committed for trial for stealing sheep belonging to a neighbouring farmer.

MRS. JAMES, wife of a working man at Bishop Stortford, was frozen to death last week in consequence of lying down to sleep in the open air while in a state of intoxication.

THE WORKS FOR THE PERFORATION OF MOUNT CENIS continue regularly notwithstanding the rigour of the winter. One mile and seven furlongs of the tunnel are already completed, and a distance of about 9 ft. is perforated daily.

A PROSPECTUS has been issued of the International Racecourse Society, with a capital of £50,000, in shares of £10, for the purpose of buying or renting lands upon the Continent or in England, suitable for race and steeplechase courses.

THE REPORT PRESENTED TO CONGRESS AT WASHINGTON from the Department of the Interior mentions that ten soldiers of the Revolutionary War, pensioned off at its close eighty years ago, still survive and receive the pensions granted to them at that remote date, when the American Union was formed and recognised.

THE MONTHLY RETURN OF THE POOR-LAW BOARD shows that the number of persons in receipt of parish relief in England and Wales, at the end of November, was 13-56 per cent less than at the same period of 1862. In the north-western division the decrease was 45-65 per cent—from 296,996 to 161,431; but in November, 1860, the number was only 75,788.

THE MONTREAL PAPERS contain the prospectus of a new steam-ship line, to be established under the Limited Liability Act, with a capital of £500,000 sterling, in shares of £50 each. It is intended to commence a fortnightly service each way, to be increased to a weekly line, calling at a port in Ireland, as soon as the vessels can be got ready.

IN THE WORKROOM OF A JOINER, who lately shot himself at Birmingham, was found a coffin lined with flannel which he had prepared for himself. Upon the coffin was pinned a sheet of paper, upon which was written:—"Tell our worthy Coroner that I died by a gunshot wound inflicted by my own hand to get out of my Misery and the Extortionate Good for Nothing Doctors."

THE LATE LORD ELGIN.—The result of the post-mortem examination of the late Lord Elgin has proved what had been suspected from the first—that his death was not attributable to any disease of Indian origin. It was found that the heart was in a state of what is called professionally "fatty degeneration"—that is, that it had lost its muscular character and become weak and dilated. The right ventricle was fatally affected. There was also advanced disease of the kidneys. The changes in the structure of these vital organs had been long in progress. It is strange that they had not earlier given marked evidence of their existence, for they would have soon proved fatal under any circumstances and in any climate. A stone obelisk, 27 ft. high, with a white cross at the top, is to mark the resting-place of Lord Elgin, under a Himalayan oak in Dhurmsala churchyard.

THE ALEXANDRIA CASE.—The Barons in the Court of Exchequer delivered their opinions on Monday in the case of the Alexandria. On the question of granting a new trial the Court was equally divided, two being against and two in favour of a re-arguing of the case. The practical effect of this was, of course, that the application for a new trial was refused. To make the matter quite clear, however, Mr. Baron Pigott, the junior Baron, withdrew his opinion in the case, which gave a majority to the Judges against a new trial. The application was then refused, and the finding of the jury on the original trial—that the fitting out of the Alexandria was not a violation of the Foreign Enlistment Act, and that the vessel was illegally detained—is allowed to stand. Against this decision the Attorney-General intimated his intention to appeal.

THE EARL OF DERBY AND LORD BROUGHAM ON CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.—At the opening of a new co-operative store at Prestwich, near Manchester, on Saturday last, the following letter was read from Lord Derby:—"Knowsley, Jan. 6, 1864.—Sir,—I regret that it will be quite impossible for me to attend the meeting intended to be held in Prestwich on Saturday next to celebrate the opening of this new co-operative store; but if any persons have been led to believe that I look coldly on the co-operative movement they are greatly mistaken. It has always appeared to me to be well calculated to encourage in the operative classes habits of frugality, temperance, and self-dependence; and if the managers of these societies conduct them prudently, not entering into wild speculations, and retaining in hand a sufficient amount of reserved capital to meet casual emergencies, they cannot fail to exercise a beneficial influence upon the habits of the population, both morally and physically. It is encouraging to find that the establishment of these societies has not been put a stop to by the severe trial which the operative classes of the manufacturing districts have experienced for the last eighteen months.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, DERBY." Lord Brougham writes:—"Canter, Jan. 5.—My dear Mr. Pittman,—I have received your letter, and rejoice exceedingly at the success of co-operation at Prestwich. It is highly creditable to that place, and I heartily wish that I could have the gratification of being present at your meeting. But, as that is impossible, I beg that you will present my respects to the good men, your neighbours, and express my sense of their great merit in supporting the principle of co-operation at a time of difficulty, though I feel assured they will find it a mitigation of the evils under which they now labour.—Believe me, truly yours, BROUGHAM."

FREEMOUL LAND IN HERTS AND EAST SURREY.—The Conservative Land Society has just acquired two new estates—the one at the increasing malling town of Bishop Stortford, thirty-two miles from London by the Great Eastern, and the other in Plough-lane, Battersea, close to the branches of the "All-round-the-town railway" lines and Wandsworth station on the South-Western, and within a short distance of Battersea Park and the new Chelsea Bridge. The society has now fifty estates in twenty counties, nearly half a million of money having been expended in land purchases and public works, such as roads, ornamental gardens, sites for churches, &c.

## THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

LAST week I gave you a list of notices of motions upon the order-book of the House of Commons. I did not mention Mr. Charles Buxton's notice to bring before the House the affair of the late bombardment of Kagosima, because said notice is not yet upon the book. All the notices which I called attention to were given last Session. No notice, I believe, can be entered during the vacation. Immediately after the assembling of Parliament, Mr. Buxton will assuredly enter his notice in due form, and take the earliest opportunity to bring it forward. Meanwhile there is a great deal of talk about the Kagosima business, and some of our political prophets foretell that, if Mr. Buxton presses a resolution against the Government to a division, a defeat of the Ministry is on the cards. Mr. Binney lately preached a sermon at the Weigh-house Chapel on this subject, from a text in "Jonah," which I will give you entire:—

Then said the Lord, Thou hast had pity on the gourd, for the which thou hast not laboured, neither madest it grow; which came up in a night, and perished in a night; and should I not spare (or have pity on) Nineveh, that great city, wherein are more than six-score thousand persons that cannot discern between their right hand and their left hand; and also much cattle.

At the close of his sermon, the preacher said that he had been induced to deliver it from the fear, which he could not but entertain, that a great national crime had been committed in Japan, or one which would become that if the people of England did not come forward and repudiate it; and then, taking the *Gazette* which contained the correspondence and all the papers on this subject in his hand, he proceeded to tell, in his own peculiar, vigorous, and lucid style, the painful story of the burning of Kagosima, at the close of which he thus speaks of Mr. Buxton and his motion:—"Mr. Charles Buxton is pledged to bring the question forward, and will be prepared, I doubt not, to redeem his pledge. He is the son of one who used to be prompt and decided, giving notice of motion or pressing a division in spite of Ministerial remonstrances or apprehensions of timid friends." It will be remembered that Mr. Binney wrote a life of the late Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton. Your readers are acquainted with Mr. Binney, for, in 1856, you gave them a portrait and biography of this remarkable man; and, by-the-way, in that biography the writer said:—"There can be no question that Mr. Binney's influence is wide and deep. He is probably the only Dissenter preacher now in London whose name is known far beyond the dissenting circle;" and this witness is true, and hence it is that I have called attention to this sermon of Mr. Binney.

But will Mr. Buxton take Mr. Binney's advice, and insist upon a division? Certain of the Conservative gentlemen hope and believe that he will—or hope if they do not believe. Lord John Manners, for example, and his "set," are very anxious for a division and a crisis, and do not scruple to let their anxiety be seen of men. But Mr. Forster, of Bradford, said the other day there are certain others of the Conservative party who have no wish for a crisis. Mr. Newdegate and Mr. Bentinck, for example. "These gentlemen," Mr. Forster said, "prefer Lord Palmerston to Mr. Disraeli, and would keep Lord Palmerston in power to prevent Mr. Disraeli from obtaining it." First, then, will Mr. Buxton press for a division. I doubt it; unless, indeed, he should be able confidently to foresee that the division will be harmless. Mr. Buxton is a very excellent, and I may say an able, man, but I doubt whether he is made of stuff sufficiently stern to take upon himself the responsibility of overthrowing the Government or forcing it to dissolve Parliament. But, if he should screw his courage up to dare all consequences, will he get a majority? Mr. Forster thinks not; and so do I. The Whigs proper will rally round the Government, as their manner is. Many of the Tories will do the same. Others will quietly go home, and amidst this division and confusion of parties the offenders will slip their necks out of the noose. Talk there will be, and some very tall talk, on both sides; but no crisis and no dissolution on that question.

And I learn that Lord Palmerston has no intention to dissolve Parliament this year, unless his opponents should force him to do so. This I have, I think I may say, on unquestionable authority. "Palmerston will dissolve this year, I suppose?" said I to a staunch supporter of the noble Lord, and something more. "No! why should he?" was the reply. "The Session is old. It is time that it returned to the founder, like old type, to be recast in a new and better mould." "Well, it won't yet," said he, laughing at my figure (which, by-the-by, was borrowed from the tombstone of old Gedge, the printer, in Abbey Church, Bury St. Edmunds). "I know Palmerston has no intention to dissolve Parliament until 1865. Then, I suppose he will dissolve at all events."

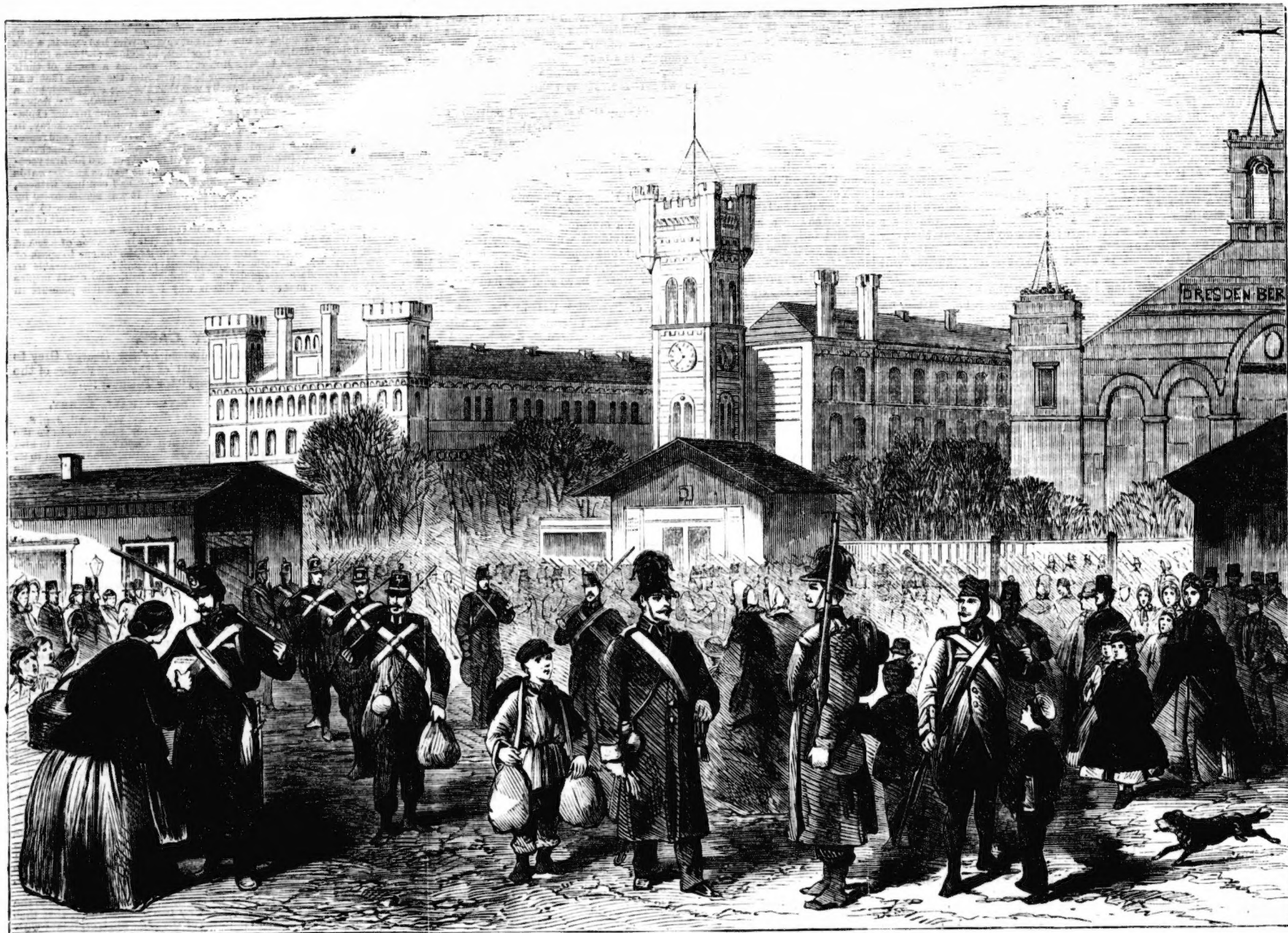
*Ad interim*, the note of preparation for the dissolution is in divers places beginning to make itself heard. At Plymouth, we learn the Conservatives mean to put forward a Mr. Edgcombe. This gentleman must be a scion of the family of Mount-Edgcombe, which has its residence at Mount-Edgcombe, near Plymouth. Lord Valletort, it will be remembered, the heir of the house, succeeded in defeating Mr. White in 1859. But in 1861 Lord Valletort, on the death of his father, went to the House of Peers, and then Mr. Walter Morrison, a son of the late James Morrison, of the house of Morrison, Dillon, and Co., got the seat, beating the honourable Wells Addington by 1179 to 984. The Liberals of Plymouth say they will beat Mr. Edgcombe; but this, I think, is rather doubtful. In 1859 Lord Valletort was at the head of the poll, and left Mr. White in a minority of nearly 200. Moreover, in a speech which Mr. Morrison delivered lately at Plymouth, there were sentiments not entirely satisfactory to some of his former supporters. But a Morrison must be wealthy; and wealth goes a great way at Plymouth, as elsewhere. I forget, for the moment, the name of the gentleman who is to oppose Roebuck at Sheffield, but he is of high standing—one of the magnates of the town; and at Sheffield it is confidently affirmed that "Tear-'em's" fate is sealed. Mr. Charles Gilpin too, I am told, is in danger at Northampton. Some huge shoe manufacturer down there, of the Jewish persuasion, name not known to me, is diligently sapping the Poor-law Secretary's position. But Northampton must have changed wonderfully since 1859 if it prefers a Jew to Mr. Gilpin. Doubtless, however, Mr. Gilpin's acceptance of office has not added to his popularity amongst the Radical shoemakers.

Captain Sherard Osborn, who went out to China to do wonderful things, is coming back, having achieved nothing. The gallant Captain was, according to arrangements made by Mr. Lay with the Chinese Government, to be commander-in-chief over the European Chinese navy, with entire control over all vessels of European construction, and Chinese vessels manned by Europeans in the employ of the Emperor of China, and was to have full authority from the Emperor to cover all his acts as commander-in-chief in the Chinese seas. These were the terms of Mr. Sherard Osborn's commission. But, on further consideration, the Chinese Government revoked this commission; and no wonder. The marvel is that a proposal like this was ever entertained; for everyone may see with half an eye that with such a commission Captain Osborn would have become, or might have become, so completely master of the situation as to be virtually Emperor of China. For, let it be noted, there was no limit to the extent of this Anglo-Chinese force. It might have been indefinitely increased, and, no doubt, would have been sufficiently powerful in a short time to place the Emperor of China entirely at the mercy of Captain Sherard Osborn. "But Captain Osborn was to obey the orders of the Emperor." True, this was in the bond. But the Emperor or his advisers have probably learned the fact that might is right. They know the history of our career in India, and were in all probability acquainted with the Kagosima business before we were. Indeed, it is very possible that the news of the burning of Kagosima may have opened the eyes of the Chinese Ministers. Kagosima was burned on the 15th of August—Captain Osborn's remarks upon the refusal of the Chinese Government to ratify the agreement are dated the 28th of September. So the expedition has failed. And right glad ought every Englishman to be that it has failed. But who is to pay for it? As far as my recollection serves me, this was not a Government expedition. Captain Sherard Osborn went on his "own hook," and all the Government did was to sell him stores out of the dockyards. Has he paid for those stores, or did he have credit—buy for account, as the stockbrokers say? I suspect he did not pay. He hoped to



PRINCE FREDERICK OF AUGUSTENBURG.—A correspondent, writing from Kiel, where the claimant of dual honours in Schleswig-Holstein is residing, thus describes the personal appearance of the Prince :—"I have seen and had a short interview with the great man of this place, Prince Frederick of Augustenburg. He is a personage likely enough to win favour with most of those who approach him. He is one of Nature's own Princes. Tall and stately, about five ft. 1 in. in height—well built, somewhat colossal, not corpulent, with fine aquiline features, a good complexion, a rich German head of hair, a fine hazel hair, a true Scandinavian face, with light-coloured, slightly pencilled eyebrows, and light, transparent, sky-blue, serene eyes, *durchlauchtig*, reminding one of purest Northern ice, an expression of sedateness amounting almost to slowness and heaviness, an expression well matched by deliberate gravity of speech; he speaks excellent English, but has a very slight, yet very perceptible, difficulty of utterance, apparently caused by some peculiar defect in the front teeth. He is, I am told, less than thirty-four years old. Owing, perhaps, to the striking solemnity of his address, I should have deemed him to be more than forty. He is very gracious and affable—kiingly, in short. From the brief conversation thus passed between us I should feel inclined to think him endowed with a sound understanding and more than common capacity."





THE OCCUPATION OF SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN: THE AUSTRIAN "EXECUTION" CORPS PASSING THROUGH LEIPSIK.

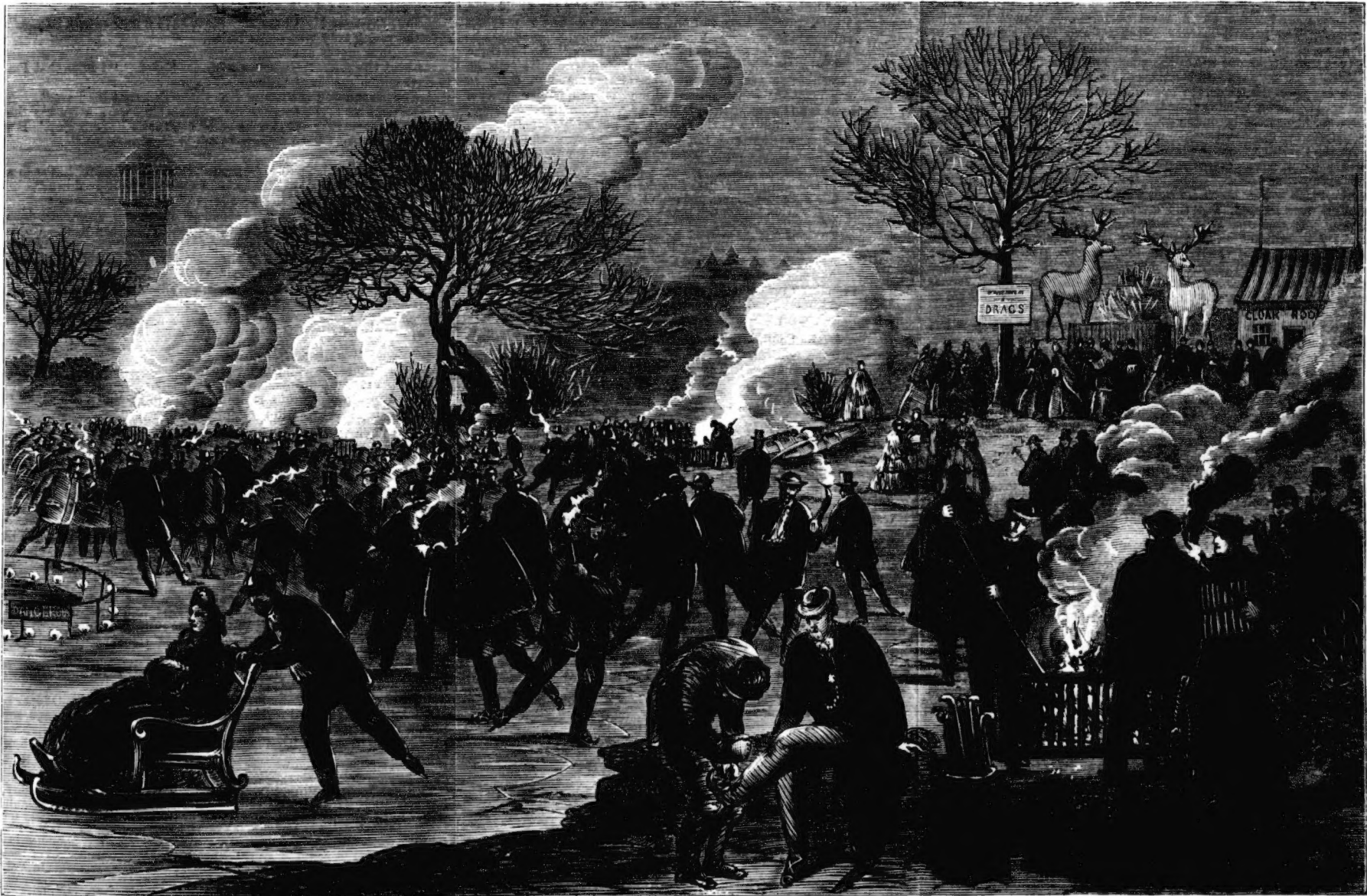


DEPARTURE OF THE SAXON "EXECUTION" CORPS FOR HOLSTEIN.—SEE PAGE 35.





THE LATE FROST: HURDLE-RACING IN REGENT'S PARK,



SKATING BY TORCHLIGHT ON THE LAKE AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.



## THE LATE SPORTS UPON THE ICE.

THE predictions of the continuance of last week's frost have not been verified; but all London seems to have recognised the wisdom of making the most of every sheet of ice in or near the metropolis, and of trusting nothing to our uncertain climate.

It was so long, too, since we had any real frosty weather that everybody who could by any means command the price of the hire of a pair of skates went out, determined to get as much locomotion as possible for his money; and, to tell the truth, the results were as amusing to the spectators as to the performers themselves; while, to judge from the extraordinary variety of "irons," this must have been a profitable season to some of the dealers in sundries who owned secondhand skates as part of their stock in trade.

The example of the aristocracy places skating amongst the most fashionable of English sports; and, as it is one which (weather permitting) can be acquired and joined in by people of all ranks, there is little to wonder at in the enthusiasm which greeted the sharp frost of last week.

The highest and the lowest in the land were alike eager to participate in the amusement while the ice lasted; and even in the retirement of Windsor the Princess of Wales (who, by-the-way, is an accomplished skater) was driven in a sledge on Virginia Water only three or four hours before the birth of another heir to the English crown.

Their Royal Highnesses were met on the ice by about forty ladies and gentlemen, many of the gentlemen belonging to the London Skating Club. Two sides were chosen for the game of hockey. Those on the Prince's side were distinguished by a white ribbon on the left arm. The game was kept up with great animation until two o'clock, when the Prince and his companions repaired to the Fishing Temple, where they partook of a sumptuous luncheon. Afterwards they returned to the lake and resumed the game of hockey, which they kept up until a quarter to five o'clock, when the Prince left for Frogmore. His Royal Highness proved himself a first-rate skater and player, being as active with his hockey-stick as he was on his skates, puzzling many of the most expert players.

Besides the Royal visitors and suite, there were upwards of 500 people present, including a large number of ladies, who displayed much skill and grace in the performance of several difficult figures. This exciting scene was much enlivened by the performance of the band of the Royal Horse Guards (Blue), who were comfortably seated round a large charcoal fire on the banks of the lake, near the Fishing Temple.

The most select of the metropolitan public were perhaps to be found in Kensington Gardens, where there had assembled upon the Long Water, on Friday week, about 2500 people, including several ladies and a good many members of the Skating Club, whose evolutions were watched by the crowds upon the banks and on the bridge. It was at the Round Pond, however, that the greatest attraction was to be found, for there the observed of all observers, a party of ladies, exhibited some extraordinary and graceful feats of fancy skating, to the delight of a great assembly, who applauded them to the very echo. Nothing could have been more animated than the scene at this spot—the clear frosty air, the flying figures of the skaters, the gay warm dresses of the fair performers, the glitter of the ice, and the sparkling rime upon the trees, all combined to produce a charming winter picture.

At the Long Water, long skating and fancy skating were carried on with great spirit throughout the day. After dark the grand railway match was commenced. Each person who took part in the proceedings, and there were several hundreds in each race, carried either a lighted flambeau in his or her hand, or a lamp on the head. Of a sudden the railway whistle was sounded, and then the skaters started off at a furious pace, coloured fires being occasionally thrown up, the entire scene being, perhaps, the wildest and most brilliant ever witnessed in connection with out-door amusements in this country.

At Hyde Park some 10,000 persons were upon the ice during Friday week, and innumerable skating-matches were entered into and carried out with spirit by individuals of both sexes. A species of sleigh, constructed of wickerwork, was in great requisition, and ladies seated in those conveyances were pushed along the ice by their cavaliers at an alarming rate of speed. Indeed, a considerable portion of the knocks-down during the day were attributable to this mode of transit. Several persons were treated for cut heads and bruised limbs at the receiving-house, but no accidents of a serious character were reported. Both here and at Regent's Park the great attraction on the ice was a novel performance named "hurdle-racing." The ground ice was swept up and piled some 12 in. or 18 in. high. A number of persons, including ladies, then started at a given signal from one end of the pond, and skated along with great rapidity until they reached the piles of ice, over which they jumped, alighting upon the ice on the opposite side, and again darting off at full speed. After turning round, the same performances were gone through, the racers becoming even more venturesome as they grew accustomed to the sport.

At the Crystal Palace the lakes and basins, extending over nearly twenty acres, were covered with skaters during the day; and, as the evening advanced, some hundreds came down to join the sport, which was a spectacle well worth witnessing. Torches and bonfires were lighted, and the scene, as viewed from the adjacent slopes, was remarkably picturesque in its character, although scarcely so brilliant as that upon the Long Water at Kensington. Still the reflection of the lights as they flashed hither and thither gave strange fanciful pictures which seemed to vanish or to change every moment. The condition of the ice in the Crystal Palace grounds was, perhaps, superior to that on any other of the lakes or ponds near London.

The reports from the provinces seem to show that the sport has been keenly pursued throughout the country.

At Liverpool the ornamental water in Prince's and Wavertree Parks, and the flooded portions of Sefton Meadows, was each crowded with skaters, and the different fields of ice presented a still more animated and gay spectacle. The ornamental lakes in Birkenhead Park were thronged by skaters, not a few of whom were ladies. Early in the week a match at curling took place at the Birkenhead Park before a numerous concourse of spectators.

The advices from Scotland tell us that the lochs have been, from morning till evening, crowded with curlers and skaters, all of whom seemed to enjoy their sport to the greatest extent. Prince Alfred visited Duddingston Loch twice during the week, and had some capital skating, a pastime in which his Royal Highness proved himself very proficient.

On Friday a grand curling-match, under the auspices of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club, took place on Castle Semple Loch, near the railway station at Lochwinnoch, distant about fifteen miles from Glasgow. The match lay between clubs north of the river Clyde and those south of the same dividing line. As forming a really national contest, the match was looked forward to with the greatest interest by curlers, about 1000 of whom took part in the competition, formed into 118 rinks. The match commenced about mid-day and was concluded shortly after three o'clock, with the following result:—North, 1328 shots; South, 1689; giving a majority for the South of 361 shots. In the president and president-elect's match the clubs forming the president party made 197 shots, against 242 by their opponents, the president-elect party thus gaining by 45 shots.

A correspondent of the *Scotsman*, referring to the rare opportunity which frosty weather presents to skaters for enjoying their exhilarating pastime and the comparatively slight trouble which it would cost to keep the ice clean and in good condition, suggests that in future the Edinburgh Skating Club or the police authorities should cut holes of 3 in. diameter in the ice, and pump up the water till it overspread the loch a few inches. By adopting this simple expedient, which is almost universally practised in Canada, the loch would be covered each morning with fresh keen ice that would add immeasurably to the comfort and enjoyment of the skaters.

ROSSINI will complete his seventy-second year on the 29th of February. From the day on which he was born, the illustrious composer has the anniversary of that event only once every four years.

## OUR FEUILLETON.

## THEATRICAL TYPES.

## NO. II.—BURLESQUE WRITERS.

DURING the last seven years burlesques and extravaganzas have taken so strong a hold on public favour that their authorship has become a distinct and separate form of dramatic writing. More than this; it has become a lucrative one, and is therefore much followed. That very large majority of persons who are not burlesque writers, burlesque actors, theatrical managers, and amateurs, would be astonished if they knew what serious importance is attached to the production of these rhymed travesties, what crowds they attract, and what large receipts they bring.

There are all sorts of burlesque writers: smart young men, fresh from Oxford or Cambridge; bland old gentlemen, deeply read in foreign literature, devoted amateurs; and regular writers for newspapers, magazines, and periodicals; but, though their social status and personal habits no more resemble each other than the faces of sheep—according to shepherds and flock masters—there is a singular similarity in their mental vision, in the point of view from which they "focus" the world, literature, and things in general. They have an intense love of the marvellous, and, as boys, a stronger prepossession in favour of giants, genii, dwarfs, fairies, salamanders, and syrens than other boys. "The Midsummer Night's Dream" is their starting-point; for there are the classics, the fairies, Puck—the original spirit of burlesque, the transformation of Bottom the Weaver, and the first dramatic travesty, where the unities are held up to ridicule, and the shortcomings of theatrical performances mercilessly mauled. Joined to this, they have a keen ear for similarity of sound, whether for pun, paraphrase, or turn, and a vivid perception of fun—that is, broad fun, iconoclastic fun, fun upon the surface, fun as distinguished from humour. They feel an impish glee and forty-Puck power of mischief in making Richard the Third, while he is contemplating the murder of the Princes in the Tower, allude to the Social Science Congress in a ballad written to the tune of "Billy Barlow;" and compel St. George of England, when courting the King of Egypt's daughter, to inquire whether her property is settled on herself, and if her back hair be real.

They permit no poetical illusion. If the thunder roll over the head of aged and devoted Lear, the world must be reminded that it is not the real artillery of the skies, but a mechanical contrivance. To them Ariel is an entity fond of hot roast potatoes for supper. They do not call a spade a spade, but a wooden stick and handle rivetted on to a square of iron. To love is "to spoon," and to marry is to be "tied up." We have all seen those grotesque mirrors that elongate or widen the natural face into a comic hideous monstrosity—an optical contrivance that would deform and vulgarise the Apollo. As these false mirrors are to beauty, such, unless confined to proper limits, unless barbed by satire and winged by wit, is burlesque to literature and art.

Not that it is not a very good thing, in its proper season, with frosted cakes, mince-pies, mistletoe, and custards. At this present date it is like a mettlesome, audacious, too clever child, who, despising the wholesome restrictions of the nursery, is *de trop* in the drawing-room, a straddle on the staircase, and a stumbling-block in the hall.

About the end of August, when London steams to the seaside and Londoners do not stream into the theatres, when managers have acted their favourite characters to indiscriminating audiences who have graciously accepted free admissions, they begin to think seriously of Christmas, and invite their pantomime or burlesque writer to a solemn conference. Then follows a long and earnest discussion upon "subjects." Fairy lore—the Countess d'Aulnois—Walter Scott—everything has been done. Wanted, something new. Required, where to find it? The burlesque writer says he will look over his memoranda and write.

As it has never been made the subject of a burlesque, and, therefore, cannot be invidious or personal, we will suppose that Lord Byron's poem of "Lara" is the theme hit upon by the author and approved of by the manager.

The exigencies of modern taste and the requirements of playbills immediately suggest as a striking Christmas, comic chorus sort of title, "Right-fal-LARA-whack!"

The original poem is, as the reader knows, a sequel to "The Corsair," and but a misty and imperfect one. If any one would read the story in its entirety they will find it in George Sand's Venetian novel "L'Uscoque."

There being little plot and less incident in "Lara," the burlesque writer invents a thrilling and dramatic story, which he tells by means of contrastive and impossible characters; and in doing so exhibits a power of construction which is the nobler portion of his art. Lara is a misanthropic hero of the true Byronic model, who holds self-communion in the picture-gallery of his lonely castle, attended by a mysterious and faithful page, known in the travestie as Buttini, which is, of course, burlesque Italian for Buttons. The poem runs:—

In trembling pairs (alone they dared not) crawl  
The astonished slaves, and shun the fated hall;  
The waving banner and the clapping door,  
The rustling tapestry and the echoing floor;  
The long dim shadows of surrounding trees,  
The flapping bat, the night-song of the breeze;  
Aught they behold or hear their thought appals  
As evening saddens o'er the dark grey walls.

This is rendered into a troop of timid servants, with pale cheeks and agitated knees, to whom *Gatesauce*, the fat Cook, rushes on pale and trembling, with white cheeks and an exaggerated nightcap.

*Dishuppa* (the Scullion). Cook, what's the matter?  
*Galloppa* (the Courier). Tell us; is there danger?  
*Scindello* (the Steward). Thy looks are blank!  
*Jonscottia* (the Groom). Ay, blander than blank-manger!  
*Galloppa*. Stand up. [Gatesauce falls on the stage.]  
*Scindello*. He's down.  
*Jonscottia* (assisting him to rise). How with his weight I'm burdened!  
*Dishuppa*. He can't be down, 'cos he's a upper servant!  
*Gatesauce* (recovering). Oh, la! [Faints again.]  
*Dishuppa*. Tell more!  
*Jonscottia*. Encore!  
*Gatesauce* (recovering). You bore! *Eau d'or*!

[They bring him liqueur. He drinks, and recovers.  
My friends, (they gather round him) I can't! I'll sing you what I saw!

And a song follows, to the air of the Phantom Chorus in "La Sonnambula," or "Pretty Polly Perkins of Paddington-green."  
Buttini is, of course, a lady, who, though she has followed Lara disguised as an errand-boy and general servant, will not, though she love him, listen to his suit, even though he proffer marriage. As she says she is:—

In form a tiger, and at heart a tigress  
Lara, otherwise O'Leary, reminds her of past delights,—  
Remember, love, our cottage by the sea,  
Where we were happy as could mortals be,  
With toast and tarts, and shrimps and whisks for tea.  
[Trying to put his arm round her waist, she repulses him.]  
*Kaled*. You'll take no whisks—or liberty—with me.

At the Festival in Otho's Hall there is a grand ballet, after which Sir Ezzelino, the stranger, makes his first appearance, and defies Lara to mortal combat, which affords an opportunity for some smart allusions to the recent tourney between King and Heenan, much approved of by the gallery, and still more by the carefully-combed male occupants of the stalls.

In the battle at the end of the piece, *Kaled* the page fights and almost conquers the entire opposing force; but, despite his or her prowess, Lara is wounded mortally. Here we must again quote from the original:—

Beneath a lime, remoter from the scene,  
Where but for him that strife had never been,  
A breathing but devoted warrior lay:  
'Twas Lara, bleeding fast from life away.  
His follower once, and now his only guide,  
Kneels Kaled watchful o'er his willing side.

He clasps the hand that pang which would assuage,  
And sadly smiles his thanks to that dark page,  
Who nothing fears, nor feels, nor heeds, nor sees,  
Save that damp brow which rests upon his knees;  
Save that pale aspect, where the eye, though dim,  
Held all the light that shone on earth for him.

This is changed to:—

*Lara*. Kaled, I'm licked!  
*Kaled*. And yet I threw his lunge up.  
*Lara* (falling). I cannot come to time; so throw the sponge up!  
*Kaled*. Strive, Sir, to rise. I'll bear thee hence.  
*Lara* (faintly). No, no!  
His strong arm's dealt me a real *Armstrong* blow.

*Kaled*. Let me assist thee.  
*Lara*. Dearest! 'tis too late,  
Like Heenan, I am now heenan-imate.

Enter *Otho*, *Ezzelino*, and all the opposing party. *Kaled* again protects *Lara*, kills half a dozen assailants, but is at length overpowered by numbers, and is ordered for immediate execution.

The poet sings:—

Oh! never yet beneath  
The breast of man such trusty love may breathe!  
That trying moment hath at once revealed  
The secret long and yet but half concealed;  
In baring to revive that lifeless breast,  
Its grief seemed ended, but the sex confessed;  
And life returned, and Kaled felt no shame—  
What now to her was Womanhood or Fame?

The burlesque author chants:—

*Ezzelino*. The page boy dies the death. The headsman summon!  
*Kaled* (her foot on her prostrate antagonists). Pity the weakness of my sex!  
*Omnes* (astonished). A woman!

The disguised page is pardoned, *Lara* recovers, every marriageable person plights his or her troth to another, and a finale is sung to a popular air:—

*Ezzelino*. Our little piece is ended;  
*Otho*. Your kindness, friends, we lack;  
*Kaled*. Naught but a jest's intended  
By Right-fal-Lara-whack!

Chorus (dancing and clapping their hands together on the last syllable). By Right-fal-Lara-whack!

*Lara*. And, ere we drop the curtain,  
*Kaled*. Oh! say you'll all come back;  
*Lara*. And so ensure the fortune  
*Kaled*. Of Right-fal-Lara-whack!  
Chorus. Of Right-fal-Lara-whack!

It is these broad and over-palpal jocularities that hit modern audiences hardest. Smart writing, keen satire, and hard raps at social abuses, though they look well in print and are admired of critics and habitués, fail to elicit the loud roars of laughter that follow an ingeniously audacious pun or a happy paraphrase or parody.

With the rehearsal of the burlesque the author's perplexities begin. The scenic artist wishes to introduce the lime-light in a scene where it is more than usually inappropriate. Possibly he thinks the dialogue will be the brighter—it will light up the puns and make the jokes more brilliant. The ballet-master desires to cut the story into two halves in such a place that it will be impossible to reunite the thread of interest; and, last and worst difficulty of all, the performers have to be reconciled to their parts and to the parodies allotted them.

As with tragedy so with burlesque. "I am engaged in this theatre," said a French tragedian, "for tears. My speciality is tears. Unless I weep I cannot act; unless I weep the audience will not recognise me. There is not a tear in my part. I pray you, then, dear Monsieur, to permit me to curse my daughter and then subside into heartrending sobs."

"Now, my dear Mr. Charade, I must have a serious talk to you," says the young lady who plays *Kaled*.

The author moves uneasily.  
"About the songs?" continues *Mdlle. Kaled*. "I hope that I'm to have one to the air of 'Ribstone Pippins'?"

"Well, to tell you the truth, I had intended that for *Lara*."  
"Oh, dear me! you surprise me. Mr. Oddjaws always has the best of everything. Last year he had 'The Little Baker's Boy.' It's very inconvenient for me to have to colour for this *Caleb*."

"*Kaled*."  
"Kalg—what d'ye call it? And 'Ribstone Pippins' has such a good chorus. I think, with a dance, I could make it go down."

"No doubt you could, my dear Miss Gigwell; but"—  
"Now, I must have no buts about it. Either I sing 'Ribstone Pippins,' or you must get Miss Chillgrim to play the part. Good-morning, Mr. Charade!"

And Miss Gigwell glides away.  
When the author informs *Lara* that he thinks a medley will be suited to him, that gentleman immediately breaks out with,

"Oh, nonsense, my dear boy; nothing of the sort! 'Ribstone Pippins' must be mine, or—it has such a stunning chorus, you know, my dear boy,

"With my  
Rip-pip-pip, my rip-pip-pip,  
My rip-pip-pipstone pippins.  
Rip-pip-pip-pi-pip, rip-pip-pip-pi-pip-ip-pip-ip-pip  
My ribstone pip-ip-pippins.

Oh, it's the very thing for me."

"I'll make a swop with you," says the author; "Let Miss Gigwell have 'Ribstone Pippins,' and you shall have 'Hot Cod-lings.'"

"What a fellow you are! No, my dear boy; must have it. Sooner than go without my 'Ribstone Pippins' I'd go without my Christmas pudding."

"Or your Christmas goose," says the author—to himself, not to Mr. Oddjaws. To make which piece of caustic satire intelligible we must inform our readers that "goose" is theatrical argot for hissing.

The "Ribstone Pippin" difficulty for a long time agitates the theatre. Negotiations fail, a congress is held, and eventually a compromise effected. "Ribstone Pippins" is sung as a duet.

On Boxing Night the audience demand its repetition and its re-repetition.

"I told you how I could make 'Pippins' go," says Miss Gigwell to the author, as she receives his congratulations.

"I was right about the 'Pippins,' wasn't I?" says Mr. Oddjaws.

"I knew 'Ribstone Pippins' would be best as a duet," says the author to his wife as they drive home together, after the delighted lady has heard her husband called for, and seen him make his bow from the stage.

T. W. R.

THE BARTLOW TUNNEL.—On Friday week Mr. Purnell, the secretary, laid before the Archeological Institute a profile of the Bartlow Tunnel, which had been prepared by the engineer of the Great Eastern Railway for the purpose of showing the manner in which he proposes to bring a line through these interesting relics. Mr. Purnell also read a communication from the Society of Antiquaries, announcing the entire concurrence of that body with the institute, and promising their strenuous opposition in Parliament to the passage of the proposed bill. It was unanimously resolved that the proposed method of carrying a line of railway through the Bartlow Hills is objectionable; and that no scheme would obtain the sanction of the institute, the adoption of which would in any degree injure or deface these singular monuments of antiquity.



## ENGLAND VERSUS AUSTRALIA.

A SPINSTER HERE—A BACHELOR THERE.

WHERE pleasures abound and to-morrow is provided for, though life should linger for ninety years to come, single life adds to enjoyment through its freedom; but I would advise any man who sees sorrow before him to get married; for, although it is written that marriage shares the comforts of the world, experience would show that it more often ends in the division of its miseries. I can understand the wisdom of a man with a hatful of wits, and more lawyers' clerks and sheriffs' bailiffs waiting outside, a poor creature who knows that the fight is over, and the Bankruptcy Court an inevitable certainty, getting married. I can comprehend his counting up his balance-sheet, with an immensity of writing and figuring on the debit side, and the creditor portion as white as a Bishop's sleeve, and then, after pressing his fists against his temples in sign of surrender, trotting away to where Mary Jane lives, and getting through the ceremony in time to surrender to his fiat. I can thoroughly understand the Wiltshire labourer, starving and freezing on seven shillings a week, ending with his worldly goods the innocent maiden who is stupid enough to believe in the jest. The very marriage service is an unexpected and delicate compliment to these unfortunates. They require the cruel luxury of having some living creature perpetually before them as miserable as themselves. If men will marry, they should marry young. After thirty years are passed, marriage is like a feast offered to one who cannot eat. Whilst the poetry of youth is strong, in those days when self-sacrifice and generous impulses are the romance of life, then buy your wedding-rings and satin waistcoats. There is one year of unequalled bliss offered to all men—the first twelvemonth after matrimony. The heart is clean and free from guile, the promptings of self are forgotten, and generosity helps love to reign. At thirty the cares of the world interfere with this enjoyment. Affection is chained up by the state of the market. Before opening the letter from his betrothed, the lover reads the money article in the *Times*. He has to arrange his tender meetings with his darling so as not to interfere with his appointments in the City. Even whilst he is uttering his vows of devotion he is thinking in his cashbox mind whether Jenkins and Co. will honour their acceptance. Not so your younger. He cares nothing about the rise in sugars, so long as pretty Kate does not too unmercifully keep him waiting at the appointment in Kensington Gardens. If he goes to his office, he tears open his letters and throws them to his clerk to answer; he directs everything with the careless rapidity of one late for a train, and, having neglected matters of the highest importance, rushes away an hour before his time to suffer the pangs of impatience in his darling's drawing-room, whilst she dresses for the Monday's concert. The wise man, Thales, being asked when a man should marry, answered, "A young man not yet; an elder man not at all." This is witty, but not true. Old gentlemen, decidedly, are wrong to "make fools of themselves;" but young men, endowed with young feelings and young courage, may act as imprudently as they please, and they will have this consolation, that after years of repentance are as nothing to the one year of bliss; on the contrary, they are cheap at the price.

An "elder man's" marriage is a vapid, counting-house reckoning. Many an iron-grey bachelor sighs for a wife because his servant robs the tea-caddy; others groan over dusty furniture and dull french-polish. They labour under the mistake that, if they could interest a woman in the preservation of their goods by repeating the myth that half of them belong to her, the venture would be a prudent one, and pay in the long run. They often mutter to themselves that curious love-speech, "It would be cheaper to get a wife." To get a wife! As if a wife were a pound of tea, and to be had at the nearest "little teapot" establishment. Such macadamised hearts are only fit for the wheel of fortune to trundle over. They would, on the same principle, marry their head cashiers to keep the other clerks honest: in fact, they often go to the extreme tether by raising them into partners on this self-preservation argument.

Yet there is a time of life beyond the middle age when, if a man can take to his bosom a wife, he does a clever action—not a tender or noble, but a clever, action. I refer to an old boy of, let us say, fifty-nine—one of your jolly, rollicking, worn-out old boys—a brave old boy, who has gone home by daylight many a time, and now wakes up of a morning with a thick, dry tongue, and makes wry faces, and strikes his chest, and thinks he will consult a respectable apothecary, and have his stomach put thoroughly in order. Such a vessel has done its journey, and must be dry docked. He is right to get married, if he can find any silly woman who will close the bargain. This is purchase and sale, a hiring with tea and sugar, an "engaging" with the right to abuse, and no month's warning to be given. In such cases calculations are necessary as to the value of the old boy's income, and what he will die worth. She enters on her place and its duties, speculating on her length of service. And the worn-out, health-ruined rake has always the best of it. By day he keeps her close to him, close as a nurse at the bedside. If she leaves the room his hand is on the bell-rope, and if the summons be not instantly answered, a full and true account must be given of every minute's absence. These sick men, who marry for a nurse, are jealous. They instinctively understand that the thrill of love cannot twang for long when the honeymoon is passed at a water-cure establishment, and the "at home" begins with "the pills every three hours" and the embrocation to be "frequently applied." Should the luckless woman look from the window, her owner is trying hard to catch sight of the man he feels certain she is admiring. Should she wish to change the atmosphere of the sick chamber for the cool out-of-door air, he inquires, in mournful tones, "Who is to give him his physic, if she be away?" If he cannot sleep at night, he grows jealous that she, his own, should rest so thoroughly, and he not able to close his lids. He will cry for water, and rouse her for twenty tetchy wants, that the weary vigil of his long night may be broken by her attendance. Quarrels begin almost before the taste of the wedding-cake is out of their mouths, and soon, after the first dispute has established their familiarity, the use of coarse language sets in, as well as such taunts as that she only married him for his money, or that she is waiting impatiently for his death. At the slightest remonstrance on her part, he threatens to alter his will and leave her, as he found her, a beggar. If she sheds tears he feels better pleased, because it proves to him that, weak as he may be, he is still powerful enough to teach her he is her master; and, indeed, when the hour approaches when he ought to take his beef-tea he will alter his scolding voice to bland forgiveness and bid her be a better girl for the future and be careful with the pepper and salt. Yes, these worn-out, health-wrecked, old boys are quite right to get married, or they would wither in neglect; but whether any woman is wise to accept such a mate is so entirely the business of the gentle sex that I decline offering an opinion on the matter.

Indeed and alas! marriage nowadays is altogether a mean makeshift of a junction, and has no more right to be called "holy" than statute fairs. There are some men who are obliged to take a wife at an early age and at any sacrifice, and they alone preserve the sanctity of wedlock. Such are your sons of lords, with lands and titles that must be kept in the family; your sons of merchant princes, copying the aristocratic example, and binding their millions up in settlements; your farmers, with crops, cows, cheese, and butter to look after; your young doctors, to ease their patients' qualms and keep the nightbell tinkling; your bankrupts and Wiltshire labourers, to get rid of half their misery. Schoolboys in the present day talk of enamoring heiresses. No decent-looking fellow dreams of "making a fool of himself" without something handsome to start upon. Like the French, our men have reformed their code of love; they enjoy their rollicking youth, go the pace, see life, cut a dash, and indulge in every temptation until the stomach and the money are lost, and then they turn to matrimony to mend their constitutions and means. This species of "repairs neatly executed" courting ought to enlist every woman in the defence of their sex. If they would but vow, all of them, to remain single for, let us say, five years (and, bless me, what are five years!) they would have every man in England down on his knees praying for mercy. Let a directory of fine,

fierce, finessing matrons be appointed to consider all enticing advances and decided offers made by the deceitful sex; let proposals of marriage be submitted to and discussed by this wise tribunal; give it full power of punishment and reward; let vulgar flirtation and heartless trifling rank as a species of woman-slaughter; permit this chaste and enlightened directory to found an order of merit, permitting them to present all good husbands with the G.H. medal, or to adorn all virtuous spouses with the V.S. cross, and in less than twelve months the male mind would be purified, ennobled, filled with reverential awe, and thoroughly prepared for wedlock.

But, alas! this glorious dream will never come to pass; the bright vision must dissolve in mist. The women, foolish creatures! would be the very first to oppose this enlightened scheme. There is such magic in that singular word "marriage" that even a reign of terror and all the horrors of overcrowded nunneries could not conquer the spell. Let a youth of even unprepossessing appearance—one not only inelegant in deportment but untutored in address, simply pronounce the word "marriage" and every female ear gapes to catch it, and is impatient for further particulars. As the cry of "rat" will arouse a terrier, and cause that graceful dog to sniff around, and with excited countenance to beg, prance, start, and bark, so will this sound, "marriage," set maidens blushing, giggling, and glancing sideways. What hopes, then, can be entertained of victory in this unequal fight, where surrender precedes the contest; where, at the first volley of compliments, the arms are opened and the proud conqueror surveys his victims? In despair, we drop the tear of pity, and with it the painful subject.

We will conclude with a simple story, simply told, of the sufferings endured by two unfortunates who had not the courage to be happy, because, forsooth, their path in life was not strewn with flowers, or, to use simpler words, money was tight. A better lad than William Hodkin never pulled a turnip. His parents had at his birth presented him with a frame of herculean proportions, including an iron chest, which defied consumption or prostrating catarrh. The docile William, though ever foremost in the village sports, did not, nevertheless, neglect his education, but fast clung to the blessings of knowledge with a perseverance which quickly mastered long division and writing, both round and running.

As years advanced he delivered himself up to the study of agricultural chemistry, and, being a farmer, made such progress in this intricate science that in one year alone his bill for superphosphate and guano amounted to over £10. Respected and courted, he was ever a welcome guest, and thus became acquainted with the amiable and retiring Louisa Holmes, the acknowledged heiress of her aunt, whose income, through defying the inquisitive, was not accurately known; but rumour declared it to be a comfortable independence, her terms having ever been prompt cash on delivery. Unable to resist the fascinating influence of the handsome William, the gentle girl encouraged his attentions by accidentally meeting him on Sunday evenings. Love, thus planted, further developed itself over the same hymn-book, until the vow could no longer be restrained, and, on the occasion of the aunt being absent bargaining for eggs, the offer was made and blushing accepted on the spot. Now a new ambition urged on the industrious William, whilst the pensive Louisa could scarcely believe in her overflowing happiness, but repeatedly betrayed, by broken crockery, her straying thoughts. It had been decided by the lovers that their engagement should be kept secret from their parents; for William could not reasonably expect his parents to live much longer, they being then over seventy, and perfectly aware they must die; whilst the wealth of Louisa's aunt seemed an insurmountable difficulty, that lady having strong objections to her niece having a separate establishment, and threatening to make a nephew in Scotland her heir in case of being left without an attendant.

That unhappy day at length arrived when no medical skill could induce the sinking parents of the heartbroken William to sojourn longer on earth, and, after a comfortable funeral, which charmed all visitors by the generosity of the entertainment (for many had come from a distance), the weeping orphan found himself possessed of three hundred pounds, and effects equivalent to a two days' sale. Now, at least, he considered that his Louisa would be yielded up to him, his prospects sanctioning the luxury of double expenditure. But the cruel aunt conducted herself in an outrageous manner, and responded to upright proposals by downright abuse. Overcome by emotion, the prostrated William sought a final interview with his Louisa, naming the back scullery as the cherished spot, and there, true to time as cows to milking, he pressed his adored one to his bosom, and, seated side by side on a convenient bunker, they swore to be constant and true until death should them part.

William is now in Australia, a man of wealth and forty-three next birthday. He has 3000 sheep, but he is not happy. His countless oxen run wild in his boundless feeding-grounds, but, despite the high price of wool and tallow, he cannot banish sorrow. He sits over his fire, his dogs snoring around him, and gazes into the embers, recalling the features of his Louisa in the far back days when her eyes were bright and her cheeks plump and rosy. Her portrait hangs close to the chimney-piece—a sweetly-executed silhouette, with bronze hair and eyebrows—and he gazes on it with unutterable tenderness, and wonders whether his darling still wears her hair in bands as in the time—lost for ever—when he so often smoothed them with his hands till they shone like varnish.

And where is Louisa? She is as rich as her dead aunt could make her. She sits before a tidy hearth, nursing in her lap a cat—a cat where her dear William should be! She caresses the purring favourite, thinking all the while of her beloved; passing her fingers over the soft fur, just as she, when a girl, would caress his rough hands (between her own) as he twittered his love. Poor Louisa! She is an old maid. The full grape has shrunk into the withered raisin—just as sweet, but not so tempting. She is neat and prim as ever, but thinner by many an inch round the shoulders, and sharp in the nose. The full hair has withered into one scanty ringlet—the last leaf in the tree before winter sets in. How she has sighed each time when, horror-stricken, she has observed the widening parting and thought that, if her William did not return quickly, she must either take to caps or a front! Fancy William detecting his beloved disguised in a jasey. Horror!

Neither William nor Louisa are the same in looks or love as in the heartbreaking time when they wept, and worshipped, and squeezed, and kissed, and were ready for hardships. He has lost the romance of courtship, and wishes for a wife to comfort his solitude and manage his household. She has notions of the respectabilities of life and the important position marriage gives to a lone creature. Both of them prefer money sure and in the hand to the speculative hopes of the good years to come which they were ready to trust and pray for in the courting days long since. Both have missed a life, and allowed the brightest delights of this world to escape them—the unequalled joys of a young marriage, compared to which sheep, wool, tallow, oxen, tabby cats, and bees-waxed furniture are as nothing and utterly valueless.

Ladies with thin side-curly and wide partings, whose destiny must be a jasey, allow me to inform you that in Australia, far up country, among the sheep-walks, there are thousands of men quite as handsome as William Hodkin (see Engraving), and even richer, who so seldom catch sight of female heads, whether full or scanty of hair, that they adore anything like a woman, and treat their shepherd's wife with the distinguished attentions a Countess might expect but seldom meets with; and that, could they but behold your perished locks, they would fall on their knees and worship the one lovely tress; and even though your brow might sport the deceitful front, they would, in their enthusiasm, not only excuse the fashionable disguise, but tend it and brush it carefully—as they do their own best hats—before you put it on in the morning, and every Saturday attend personally to the dressing, and have it ready, crisp and shining, for your Sunday's wearing.

A. M.

A DREADFUL FIRE occurred in Dublin a few nights ago, by which a range of five or six houses, situated at the corner of Henry-street and Stafford-street, and occupied as warehouses and workshops by Mr. Beakey, cabinet-maker, were burnt to the ground and their valuable contents totally destroyed. The fire raged from ten o'clock to three a.m. Fortunately, no person was injured.

## DEATH OF ARCHBISHOP HUGHES.

FROM America we have the intelligence of the death of Archbishop Hughes, a man distinguished not only for his enthusiastic devotion to his peculiar faith, which he propagated with Hibernian ardour and with a success denied to his countrymen at home, but also for his eminent political position. Archbishop John Hughes was, in his way, a greater man than President Lincoln. Obviously superior to the President in intellect and judgment, he could command the votes of thousands of Irish and German Roman Catholics in support of, or in opposition to, the successor of Washington.

John Hughes was born in Ireland, in 1798. At eighteen he went to America, and was a student at the seminary of Mount St. Mary, Emmettsburg, Maryland. After being ordained priest he obtained charge of a Roman Catholic community in Philadelphia. In 1834 he first became known by his controversy with Dr. Breckenridge, a Presbyterian. In 1833 Dr. Hughes was appointed Bishop of the Roman Catholics in New York, and in 1850 he was nominated Archbishop. In 1854 he was one of the prelates of his persuasion who accepted the Pope's invitation to a congress in honour of what was called the "Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin," of which new dogma Archbishop Hughes was a staunch adherent.

There can be no doubt that, under the energetic guidance of Archbishop Hughes, the Roman Catholics have attained almost a troublesome height of power in New York. His energy has been unflagging, and there can be no question of his perfect sincerity and earnestness. He has manoeuvred Presbyterians out of their chapels; and it is a great discredit to the Church to say that he has been doing his best to get hold even of the old-established churches of the Anglican communion, the "well-endowed Rectors" of which may, perhaps, be not so active in defending the right as their aggressors.

But it will be a great mistake to suppose that Archbishop Hughes was only an ambitious and successful prelate. He was an ardent politician, a wirepuller, a Cabinet-maker. President Lincoln sent him on a conciliatory errand to England and France during this present civil war. In France he was received with *empressement*, of course; but the heretical English saw no reason to care for the opinion or advice of a Roman Catholic prelate *ex partibus*. During the riots of New York the Archbishop addressed the rioters in a very inflammatory speech, derogatory to his position as an official of any communion. It ought to be noted that the Archbishop's voice was not for an insane prosecution of a war which may never end. Not many months ago, on the consecration of a Roman Catholic place of worship, he said that "a legitimate prayer now would be to stop the effusion of blood; to pray for mercy for both sides of the line, that God, in His bountiful providence, might bring this unhappy state of affairs to a glorious conclusion." The Pope recently addressed letters to the Archbishops of his Church resident in New York and New Orleans respectively, expressive of his wish for the cessation of this struggle among Christian brethren.

Archbishop Hughes in 1840 was warmly opposed to the system of public instruction in America; he insisted that schools should not be sustained by the public taxes, or that a certain share should be paid to all individually—the Archbishop objecting to the reading of Scripture in the national schools. He was also author of "Lectures on the Moral Causes which have produced the Evil Spirit of the Times," "A Debate before the Common Council of New York on the School Fund," "A Review of the Lectures of Kerivan," "The Proprietorship of Church Property," &c.

## OBITUARY.

THE BISHOP OF ELY.—The venerable Thomas Turton, Bishop of Ely, departed this life on Thursday evening last week, at his residence in Dover-street, London. His Lordship's age was, we believe, about eighty-four. He was a native of Yorkshire; and, on coming up to the University, he entered at Queen's College, and afterwards migrated to St. Catharine's College, of which he subsequently became a Fellow on his graduating as Senior Wrangler, and First Smith's Prizeman, in the year 1805. In 1822 he was appointed Lucasian Professor of Mathematics, and in 1827 he became the Regius Professor of Divinity. In 1830 he was preferred to the deanery of Peterborough, whence, in 1842, he was transferred to the deanery of Westminster, and in 1845 he was consecrated Bishop of Ely. His Lordship was a most learned divine, a profound mathematician, and an elegant and correct classical scholar. His Lordship's theological works are numerous; but he is principally known by his refutation, in two volumes, of the doctrine which had been laid down by Cardinal Wiseman with reference to the Eucharist. In 1827 he published, under the signature of "Crito Cantabrigiense," a vindication of the literary character of Professor Porson from the aspersions of Dr. Burgess. In 1835 he issued a valuable work, entitled "Thoughts on the Admission of Persons, without regard to their Religious Opinions, to certain Degrees in the Universities of England." Having suffered much from ill-health, his Lordship had led a very retired life for several years, and had interfered very little either in political or ecclesiastical affairs. By the Bishop of Ely's decease, Bishop Eliott (Gloucester) obtains his seat in the House of Lords, from which Bishop Turton's successor, so long as he is junior Bishop, will be excluded. His Lordship was never married.

THE EARL OF CLARE.—This nobleman expired at an early hour on Sunday morning at his residence in Kensington Palace-gardens. His Lordship was second son of John Fitzgibbon, first Earl of Clare. He was born in 1793, and, entering the Army at an early age, served at Oporto, Talavera, &c., with distinction. He succeeded his brother in 1851, and became Lord Lieutenant of the county of Limerick and Colonel of the Limerick Militia. His only son, Viscount Fitzgibbon, following the example of his father, entered the Army, and perished at Balaklava. The title thus becomes extinct by the present Earl's death.

MR. J. P. PLUMPTRE, FORMERLY M.P. FOR EAST KENT.—Mr. John Pemberton Plumptre, who was one of the Parliamentary representatives of East Kent from the passing of the Reform Bill, in 1832, till 1852, died at his residence, Fredville, near Dover, on Thursday, in his seventy-third year. Mr. Plumptre belonged to a distinguished Nottinghamshire family, and for several centuries the name was associated with the Parliamentary representation of Nottingham. Mr. Plumptre was born in 1791, and on the death of his father, in 1827, he succeeded to the family estates in Kent, and became a partner in the Canterbury Bank. His position gave him great influence, and about that time he commenced taking an active part in public affairs. He was at that time an Independent Whig, and at the first election after the passing of the Reform Bill he contested East Kent, in conjunction with Sir Richard Cosway, against Sir Edward Knatchbull and Lord Courtenay, Mr. Plumptre and Sir Edward Knatchbull being returned. Mr. Plumptre retained his seat till 1852, when he retired from Parliament on the ground of failing health, but continued, until about a year and a half ago, to actively discharge his duties as a magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant of the county of Kent. He was appointed by the late Duke of Wellington Deputy.

MR. COMBE, one of the magistrates of the Southwark Police Court, died on Thursday week. The learned gentleman caught cold about three weeks ago and fever supervened. He appeared, however, to be recovering, when a relapse took place, and he died. The learned gentleman had been a police magistrate in London since 1833.

PROPOSED NEW BRIDGE FROM WANDSWORTH TO FULHAM.—It is intended to remove the old bridge, which has been so long an inconvenience to the navigation, and to build a substantial one for carriages and passengers, with approaches and piers commencing at Wandsworth in the York-road, and terminating near the Peterborough Arms in King's-road, Fulham, with an approach-road from the latter point, terminating in Moore Park-road, near to where it is crossed by Britannia-road. The road on the Wandsworth side will commence in the York-road and terminate at the junction of the high road from Wandsworth with the high road from there to the new Wandsworth station of the Crystal Palace and West-end Junction Railway. The estimated cost is £40,000.

THE TYLNEY-LONG ESTATES.—Amongst the vicissitudes of families which have taken place during the past year a brief notice of the passing away of the celebrated Tylney-Long estates into a new family may be of interest to the public. The heiress of these extensive estates has been disinherited by a will of her brother, the late Earl of Mornington, which was made three weeks and two days before his death, and which left all his landed property to his father's cousin, Lord Cowley, her Majesty's Ambassador at Paris. The Tylney property came into the Long family by the marriage of the last Earl Tylney's only sister, Lady Emma Child, to Sir Robert Long, the owner of the Draycot estate. His granddaughter, Catherine Long, became the heiress of both families at the death of her father, Sir James Tylney Long. She married the Hon. William Wellesley Pole, afterwards Earl of Mornington. Their son, the late Earl, inherited all his mother's estates, and, after the death of his brother, the Hon. James Wellesley, his only sister, Lady Victoria Tylney Long Wellesley, became his heiress at law; and, though he had joined with his father in cutting off the entail, he left all his lands to her. A new will, however, made during his last illness, has caused the broad lands of the Tylney-Longs to pass away from all the heirs of the family, male and female. The Longs had held the Draycot estate for centuries.





"FISHING-BOATS BRINGING A DISABLED SHIP INTO PORT RUYSDAEL."—(FROM THE PICTURE IN THE TURNER GALLERY.)



## E N G L A N D      V E R S U S      A U S T R A L I A



A SPINSTER HERE.

## THE DISABLED SHIP.

THE picture from which our Engraving is taken is one of those wonderful seascapes painted by Turner during that part of his career when experience and careful observation combined had perfected his unrivalled power to deal with such subjects. The title

is simply expressive of the perfect truthfulness of the painting—"Fishing-boats bringing a Disabled Ship into Port Ruysdael." Surely, never were water, and sky, and atmosphere painted as Turner painted them. In the half-angry play of every rough, chopping wave, in the very shape and motion of the lightened clouds in the picture now before us, we see how terrible has been the storm of

the previous night. It scarcely needs the bare deck, the broken masts, the helpless hull lying on its side, to indicate the violence of that gale to which the good ship has been forced to succumb, and which only when the day broke appears to have moderated. Amongst all Turner's pictures few could be found which more clearly indicate his real and peculiar power.



A BACHELOR THERE.—(DRAWN BY FLORENCE CLAXTON.)—SEE PAGE 44.



## Literature.

*German Life and Manners as Seen in Saxony.* By HENRY MAYHEW. 2 vols. W. H. Allen and Co.

Let us start by saying that Mr. Mayhew has produced the most entertaining and (to a careful reader) instructive book we have seen for a long time—a book that will be greedily gone through and long remembered by everybody that takes it up.

In saying that the book is instructive to a careful reader we indicate, in brief, that a careless reader will get out of it facts, but not the truth. Mr. Mayhew is a "tapsalterie," good-humoured, cockney of a traveller; intelligent, well-informed, and with a certain big force of brain and inexpressiveness of sympathy within a given range; but always a cockney. The book is a sort of "jolly" libel, written by a man with a good stomach, a friendly heart, a splashy, diffuse style, and all the habits of the journalistic mind—good, bad, and indifferent. For example, Mr. Mayhew flatters every prejudice of the Englishman, one after the other; never for a moment does he knock his head against one. Again, he has that air of "finding things out" and "showing things up" which the general reader delights in (to his infinite harm, be it said). If he can possibly lay hold of anything that the enlightened British public will (he knows) consider indelicate, he makes "spicy" capital out of it in a manner, which, however it may pass in a newspaper, is quite out of place in writing for the library. In fact, strictly speaking, there are no ethical elements in Mr. Mayhew's writing. He knows as well as we do that the standards of "modesty" differ as much as fashions of clothing in different countries and different ages. He knows (probably) that story told by the great, good Livingstone of the two African ladies who ridiculed each other for immodesty in their quite nominal attire, though the forms of that attire were such as to bring the whole question down to zero on opposite sides,\* and yet he elaborately works up whatever he can get hold of into a broad general suggestion that modern Saxony is brutally immodest, doing this in the teeth of what we all know and what everyday reading and observation confirms—that it is to German sentiment about women that Europe owes all its superiority to the East in the relations between the sexes. Mr. Mayhew mentions, among other things, that, until lately, it was possible, legally, to flog a woman in Saxony, which is surely asking for a clap from the "gallery," and nothing more. But Mr. Mayhew cannot be ignorant that, almost within the memory of living men of advanced years, women have been legally flogged in English prisons; and that the Duke of Wellington used to have the camp-women flogged sometimes. We have now before us an old "Newgate Calendar," which contains particulars as to the treatment of women in this very London, which we defy Mr. Mayhew to parallel from German records, even in times of war and rapine. The truth is, the extreme tenderness may exist along with a supposed right to inflict blows, and we could fill this page offhand with illustrations of the fact, if any mother with a fractious baby wanted any.

Mr. Mayhew occupies a great deal of room with mal-odorous phrase-spinning about German dirtiness and indecency. Supposing all he has written were true, it would follow that these Saxons are just about where the English were in the time of Shakespeare, and that their way of dealing with certain matters, which modern feeling has (very properly) agreed to inclose and to reckon among the *taenda* of daily life, is just about what Shakespeare's was. Well, we should like to know which may be supposed to have the truest reverence and tenderness for all that is human—a man like Shakespeare, or a man like the modern precisian. The fact is, there are two ways of looking at this subject. Which, among ourselves, is most familiar with the inclosed facts of life, the woman or the man? Necessarily, from her domestic responsibilities, the woman. And which, in spite of this familiarity, has the most tenderness and pure reverence for what is human? Surely, the woman. We are not defending German dirtiness; we are not praising our babies and unkempt servant-maids; but we are maintaining, first, that Mr. Mayhew has somewhat overstated the facts; and, secondly, that he is one of the last men to interpret them. For we have here a jolly good fellow of an Englishman, who looks at everything with the eye of a man who has seen "life," and the conscience of a man whose morals have been manufactured for him by his environment as an Englishman. If he had been a German, or a Frenchman, and had come to London, he would have gone away and written a libellous book about the English; and shown himself equally unable to understand that anything could be right but what he had been accustomed to consider right.

Mr. Mayhew is fond of asseverating that it is not German poverty that he attacks, but German pretence and snobishness. Well, the Germans are snobbish enough, no doubt; but we sadly fear Mr. Mayhew has a little of the British contempt for any but full-fed, well-dressed people. The tone in which he speaks of the shifts of poor girls to make an appearance, and of the patient attention of the poor old mothers to their daughters, is almost inhuman. There is no infamy in peppermint drops, or in having a petticoat brought home barely in time for the ball.

Divorce being a "spicy" subject, it is not overlooked by Mr. Mayhew. He says:—"These lax notions as to the sacredness of the marriage contract are a necessary consequence of the laws concerning divorce in Saxony." We produce this as a specimen of Mr. Mayhew's logic. Might we ask what sort of "notions" about the marriage tie prevail in certain European countries, where (the religion being Roman Catholic) divorce is not permitted at all? Or, might we ask, on the other hand, whether the ancient Scandinavians, who allowed divorce at will, were so much less pure than the modern British?

We entirely agree [with Mr. Mayhew] that the publication of the Divorce Court reports in England is a scandal, though we do not believe it does the harm which is pretended. Mr. Mayhew's only idea of a remedy is apparently that of abolishing the Court. May we venture to help him to another idea? If he will consult great, premeditated thinkers (like Milton, Mill, and the sainted Schleiermacher), he will find them saying substantially this:—"Certainly these should not be made public matters. Divorce is not a question of public justice at all. What the State has to do is to see that women and children are not left to starve. But, the reasons a couple may have for parting are no more public than the reasons they had for coming together. These matters may be discussed in the Family Council,† by the physician, by the minister of religion; and on their evidence the Court may act, giving clear general reasons for its action; but details should be private. It does not follow that they should not be matters of record, accessible to students and inquirers. Indeed, they ought to be; but there is a vast difference between consulting a file of records solemnly guarded and devouring a column in a daily paper after a pint of bad beer.

All round the clock Mr. Mayhew seems incapable of taking another person's point of view. It is, in his eyes, a scandal of indecency that a man and his wife should announce the birth of a child by saying "we"—advertising it in the first person. The only reason for that is that in England we do it in the third person.

Again, Mr. Mayhew is lost in astonishment that among the German students a blow with the hand should be considered intemperate, while a cut with a sword, in a regular duel, is considered "the thing." For our part, we share the German feeling in that respect.

Again, it is very distressing to Mr. Mayhew to miss, at the German breakfast-table, "the bright silver urn steaming away over the equally bright silver teapot, milk-jug, and sugar-basin, the silver

egg-stand, and toast-rack, with the dish of broiled ham, or kidneys, or cold chicken," which are considered so proper in England. Well; we have talked these matters over with persons of both sexes, who know more of Germany than we do, including Germans of different ranks in life, and the result is that we deeply regret that the privations which are thus deplored should have fallen to the lot of any human being. But why didn't Mr. Mayhew follow the example of the Livingstones, and the Spekes, and the O'Haras, and take his family plate along with him?

As for the general dirtiness and coarseness of which these volumes complain, a great deal of it is true, and a great deal of it is (we are informed) not true. But, at all events, English people, by tens of thousands, who have better incomes and live in the presence of better examples, are quite as dirty as any of the Eisenachers can be.

Through twelve hundred pages Mr. Mayhew does little but abuse, in the angriest manner, Germany and everything German. Here is one of his kindly passages:—"The whole staff of town and country officials, from the red-headed and sore-eyed chief accountant down to even the putty-faced dog-tax collector," &c. Henceforward, let people who have (1) red hair, (2) tender eyes, or (3) "putty" faces give Mr. Mayhew a wide berth, on pain of being shown up. Here, too, is one of his jokes:—"After mentioning (with just condemnation) the law which regulates even the sort of coffin a man shall have, he says:—"The Government believe they have even a right to rob a poor man of his *bier*." And yet, after all, he lets out at least three things which will go a long way as a set-off against the rest of his testimony:—

1. He quotes in the Jena part of his second volume the following conditions of membership from the rules of one of the boy clubs:—"Moral living, stern upholding of personal dignity, and acting in conformity with a true, manly, and chivalrous spirit, such as knows how to defend and how to maintain right and honour at the cost even of life or blood." And of the same club he says that he never, at any of their drinking bouts, "heard a coarse word or an indecent allusion."

2. Mr. Mayhew bears touching testimony to the respect in which the graves of the dead are held in Germany, and the length of time for which the departed are borne in remembrance.

3. Although he says that crimes, and faults, and follies, of cowardice, fraud, and toadyism are common, he adds this:—"Violent vices or crimes are comparatively unknown in the land; burglary is so uncommon that it is no figure of speech to say you may rest easy in your bed with your street door open. Highway robbery is so utterly unheard of that you may walk through the whole of the Thuringian forests night after night without the least fear of meeting a garrotter; and, in like manner, murder is comparatively of rare occurrence."

To this we will venture to add the testimony of the late Mr. Thackeray. Weimar is one place, and Eisenach another; and there are now no Goethe and Schiller, even at Weimar; but let it be remembered that Mr. Mayhew repeatedly assures us that he does not speak chiefly of the vulgar, and that Mr. Thackeray writes of thirty years ago. He says:—"After an experience of five-and-twenty years since the happy days of which I write, and an intimacy with a vast variety of humankind, I think I never met with a society so genial, courteous, refined, Christian, gentleman-like, as the dear little Saxon city where the good Schiller and the great Goethe lived and lie buried."

We do not for a moment insinuate that Mr. Thackeray would have said this of Eisenach; but the raw material which could be so worked up as to produce that impression upon his mind at Weimar must exist elsewhere. At all events, an account of life at Eisenach, with digressions into Jena among the students, cannot be a complete account even of life in Saxony, much less of "German Life and Manners."

This work of Mr. Mayhew's grew, as he himself informs us, out of a literary errand which had reference to the life of Martin Luther. While he was engaged in the investigations necessary for the completion of that task his materials grew, increased so rapidly, that he saw another book was necessary. On a great many subjects he is undoubtedly right as to his facts, while the facts themselves are most important to be stated. Hasty travellers will tell you that there is less intemperance in Germany than in England. Mr. Mayhew corrects that error, and proves that these German "soakers" drink a great deal more spirits than we do, to say nothing of beer. Again, the class distinctions, and the foolish love of titles which prevail in Germany are real blots upon which he lays a firm and justly indignant finger. Certain remains of religious tyranny, such as the enforcement of chasteity by legal penalties, he does not overlook; nor does he spare (nor should he) other blunders of paternal government. The system of travelling apprenticeship, or wandering-year beggary, which still exists (though it is dying out), he justly enough condemns—though it is not without a certain beauty, and what we call mendicancy, might, in more hospitable times, receive a different name. The want of some institution answering to our coroner's inquest Mr. Mayhew believes to be a very grave evil in Saxony. Of course, he is deeply moved with the smallness of the German bedrooms, the deficiency of water, and the absence of carpet. All this, however, is not new; nor is it a matter to be angry about. It is quite notorious that Goethe slept in a room which an English maid of all work might disdain.

So far as we can make out, the meaning of the chapter called "The Moral of the Long Story," it is that miserliness is the ruling vice of Germany—the elephant upon which all its degradation rests; while the tortoise upon which this repose is, that there is no free, enlightened, successful press, like ours. We leave this "moral" to stand on its own bottom. Of course, life in Germany will, before long, be dealt with by writers more laborious as well as more equitable than Mr. Mayhew, and then we shall have the "moral" examined, and the other side of the shield shown to us.

Though Mr. Mayhew, with his unfeeling animal spirits and evident honesty of intent, is always agreeable reading, his pleasantest passages are so long that it is difficult to quote specimens in the ordinary way; so that we shall place in another column an extract or two from these very amusing volumes. We shall give, for example, a portion of his account of the last of the Lutherans. This is, we believe, quite new; which is more than can be said of the great mass of the matter before us. Even a mere reader of Mr. Longfellow's "Hyperion" will have a very good idea (unless he is a dullard) of German student life, and he can, if he chooses, supplement that by turning to Mr. Howitt's well-known books. In the last number of the *St. James's Magazine* there is a short paper about German society, after reading which you may, with a very little help from imagination, hold yourself almost as wise as Mr. Mayhew will make you, only you will, of course, have missed the warmth, the broad fun, the broad naughtiness, and the amusing British indignation of this gentleman. For our parts, we cannot say that we have got much out of these volumes but confusion of mind. The author evidently does not intend to mislead, and he frankly calls your attention to the fact that his range of observation is limited; and yet you cannot, as you read, resist the impression that you are often led off the track by your too-entertaining guide. It will be observed (for example), in the account which he gives you of the last of the Lutherans, you have two men set before you in the course of a few paragraphs. If this boor talked as he is represented to have done in the latter clauses, he was not such a fool, after all, as he is made out to be in the former clauses. Now, if a writer's animal spirits run away with him, why should not his emotions of disgust? And thus doubt enters; and when you are informed (say) that a whole family had some horrible skin disease or other, you are apt to fancy that, if you had gone into the facts yourself, it might have come down to the youngest having a wart, and the eldest having burnt his toe.

And now, in parting with a book which has given us much entertainment, we will try to sum up what we feel about it. That portion of the work which relates to the students, their drinking-bouts and duels, seems to us to be almost free from faults. A great number of the students' songs, with the music and with capital translations, are given, including the "Gaudamus igitur," and the result is very

interesting. Even here, however (here as elsewhere), there is a most atrocious quantity of compiling and of bookmaking. The work, on the whole, gives us the idea of being written by a thorough Englishman of almost excessive "geniality" and of a very affectionate heart, but with too many strong prejudices to see clearly (we say too many because to have none is a sign of weakness). This is a traveller whose notions of right or wrong seem entirely made for him. We all remember Sir William Hamilton's illustration of the wide differences there may be between perfectly honest consciences—one man would not eat his own father for the world, another thinks it the height of filial piety. Mr. Mayhew is a man who, if he had been born in a country where eating fathers was the law or the custom, sanctioned by the received religion and enforced by the policeman or Mrs. Grundy, would have been utterly shocked to miss the practice in Germany. It thus happens that his *opinions* are not to be trusted. His facts, as we have hinted, may be read with much amusement—if you only read them just as you do a letter of "Paterfamilias" growing to the *Times*. Mr. Mayhew, however, is something more than a "Paterfamilias." He is a very accomplished person, of great energy of brain, and of sound healthy instincts. And we take the great liberty of adding that, if he will, even now, submit his vigorous powers to the sort of self-chastening which they have evidently missed hitherto, he may yet make upon the literature of the brave old land that is dear to us all a mark which, both by its splendour and its depth, shall make the Wife to whom he inscribes these helter-skelter volumes even prouder of his name and fame than she now is to help him in the labours which (he publicly informs us) she so faithfully shares with her husband.

Shall we add one word more? Let the frankness with which we have written some of the foregoing paragraphs plead with Mr. Mayhew for the sincerity of the one we have just concluded.

*Bell and Daldy's Pocket Volumes: Walton's Complete Angler.* Sea Songs and Ballads, by Dibdin and others. White's Natural History of Selborne. Coleridge's Poems. The Robin Hood Ballads. The Lieutenant and Commander, by Captain Hall, R.N. The Midshipman, by Captain Basil Hall, R.N. Southey's Life of Nelson. George Herbert's Poems. George Herbert's Works. Longfellow's Poems. Lamb's Tales from Shakespeare. Milton's Paradise Lost. Milton's Paradise Regained, and other Poems. Burns's Poems. Burns's Songs.—Bell and Daldy: Sampson Low, Son, and Co.

Messrs. Bell and Daldy have done book-buyers a real service by issuing this very charming series. The books are well selected, well edited, beautifully printed, and bound both pleasingly and strongly. We warmly commend them to the notice of our readers; for we have looked over the text of all the volumes sent to us (others are in course of preparation), and find it has been properly cared for.

In Coleridge we miss "The Devil's Thoughts," and some other poems, although this collection contains two or three poems which are not given in Messrs. Moxon's edition. We call the attention of both publishers to an error in the text which is common to all editions. In the "Lines composed in a Concert-room," the first line,

Nor cold nor stern my soul! yet I detest

is misprinted. The note of admiration should be changed into a comma; the line would then read—

Nor cold nor stern my soul, yet I detest

As it now stands, it is nonsense.

The "Something Childish, but very Natural," is a translation of an old German child's ballad, which none of Coleridge's critics seem to have noticed.

One of the volumes of this series to which we would call especial attention is "Lamb's Tales from Shakespeare"—a book too much neglected by parents and guardians as a book for the young, and full, besides, of tender teaching for the old. It would be quite possible to relate (for instance) the story of Othello in such a way that it should seem the most repulsive of sensation narratives. But see what it comes to in the sweetly human minds of narrators like Charles Lamb and his sister!

The "Sea-songs and Ballads" do not seem to us to be so well selected as they might have been; but tastes differ, and it is a sort of poem of which the good specimens are not too numerous.

A word of congratulation is due to Messrs. Bell and Daldy for their courage in printing Burns without emasculating him. We have often wished their pretty edition of "Undine" had not been so cruelly handled at the beautiful opening of the eighth chapter. Would it be a bad idea to put together in one volume of this series some of the best love stories, taking in Charles Lamb's "Roseamond Gray," Fouque's "Undine," "Paul and Virginia," and one terrible story (of which we forget the name) by the Comtesse d'Arbouville?

## OPENING OF THE CHARING-CROSS RAILWAY.

THIS, the first great link in the proposed new system of metropolitan communication by rail was opened on Monday, and at once got into work with an amount of passenger traffic which gave a very fair idea of the immense public convenience the line will prove when it is complete to Cannon-street. The fact of the opening seemed far from being generally known, yet even the earliest trains were filled. The first that left the station was the 7.10 for Greenwich—one of the seventy which will now run daily between Charing-cross and Greenwich, at intervals of a quarter of an hour, from seven in the morning till (from London) 12.25 at night. The fares are, if anything, below the usual Parliamentary standard, second class to Greenwich being only 6d. Mid Kent trains also start frequently from 9 a.m. till 10.30 at night. These trains, however, are mere beginners, and meant to get the whole line at all points into thorough working order before the through traffic to the great southern lines is organised. As yet the terminal station is a temporary one, the splendid station building requiring at least two months more for its completion, when the hoardings will be removed and disclose a square with a facsimile of old Charing-cross in the centre, backed by a noble pile of edifices worthy of the situation the company has been so fortunate as to secure. It is nearly four years since this line was commenced; it is expected that two years more will see it completed, with its line to Cannon-street, and its subway under the Strand, leading into the cutting which will give access to the Great Northern, the Eastern, and the Midland stations. The Charing-cross line, though scarcely two miles long from end to end, has been in some parts the most difficult line, and in all parts what is termed the heaviest, that, for its length, has ever been built. It runs entirely on bridges or arches, there being no less than seventeen bridges and one hundred and ninety arches, of which latter eighteen are taken over streets and three over courts. Of the eighteen bridges, one crosses the Thames, the others cross great main thoroughfares. Of the Thames bridge it is unnecessary now to speak, beyond saying on Monday it proved as rigid as the earth itself under its growing traffic. Those over the streets are among the longest single-street spans ever built, and are, beyond all doubt, the ugliest ever yet put up by any engineer. When a merely nominal outlay might have made them ornamental, Londoners will hold Mr. Hawkshaw, and him only, guilty of cruelly disfiguring some of their best streets, such as the southern approach to London Bridge, which has been honoured with the ugliest viaduct of all. The quantity of wrought iron in the Charing-cross bridge is 5000 tons and of cast iron 2000 tons. The bridges over the streets contain 3250 tons of wrought iron and 250 tons of cast iron; 151,000 yards of brickwork, with 41,000 yards of concrete, were required to complete the arches; and 99,000 cubic yards of earthwork have been made. From Charing-cross, in a short time, access will be given to almost every part of the south of England; and it is to be hoped that before very long it will offer the same facilities for the great lines running north.

A RETURN made by the collector of customs at Liverpool shows that the total value of the goods exported in 1863 was £65,178,451, against £50,463,469 in 1862, being an increase of £14,714,982. The number of ships dispatched during last year was 4469, against 4264 in the previous year, thus showing an increase of 214 in the number of ships as compared with the year preceding.

\* Let us suppose the dome of St. Paul's and the dome of St. Peter's took it into their heads that they ought to wear something. Then suppose St. Paul's put on a square foot of whitewash on the east side, and maintained that that was the modest thing to do; while St. Peter's chose the west side, and maintained the same. Then, suppose the two domes to lampoon each other for indelicacy of sentiment. This is exactly the story which Dr. Livingstone tells of the two African ladies.

† The Family Council is an ancient German institution which has, we believe, fallen into abeyance.







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